

July 20 1996

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Monday May 20 1996

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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 46,557

Television's last taboo

When the Queen Mother dies...

G2 with European weather



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Secrets, lies and Mike Leigh

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Tories probe Serb links to funding

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

THE damaging secrecy surrounding the Conservative Party's funding re-emerged to blight John Major yesterday when the party chairman, Brian Mawhinney, was forced to order a full investigation into allegations that Serbian-born businessmen had given £100,000 to party funds.

The internal inquiry came as the CBI's incoming chairman, Sir Colin Marshall, urged British executives to stop using corporate cash to fund the Tories, and a survey for the Guardian showed financial support for the party from Britain's biggest compa-

nies had collapsed. It was also confirmed that accountants Touche Ross told the Tory party in July 1995 that £365,000 it had been given by fugitive tycoon Asif Nadir had been stolen from his company.

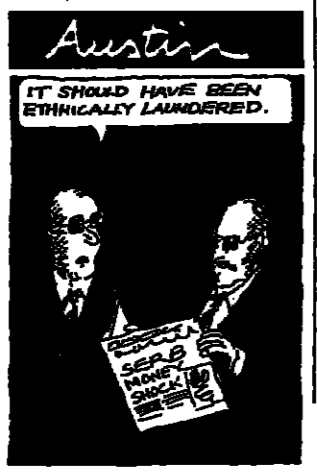
Both opposition parties claimed it would be one of the most serious scandals of this parliament if Mr Mawhinney's investigation confirmed that Serbs with links to the Serbian war leader Radovan Karadzic had indeed given cash to the Tory party in the midst of the Balkan conflict.

The investigation was prompted by a Sunday Times story — hotly denied by one of the businessmen involved — claiming a donation from a British-based Serbian entrepreneur had been made of "less than £100,000" and was regarded as so sensitive that it was reported to security services, the Cabinet office and Mr Major.

The second donation of £50,000 from a second businessman in late 1994 was — according to the Sunday Times — arranged by the known acquaintance of Karadzic, John Kennedy, a Tory candidate.

Jeremy Hanley, the party chairman at the time, conceded yesterday he had met the businessmen in a Mayfair club at the instigation of Mr Kennedy, but refused — as a matter of principle — to disclose the names of the businessmen.

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US prolonged Bosnian war

Ed Vulliamy in Washington

THE CIA and the intelligence agency which manages satellite surveillance said secretly at the onset of the Bosnian war that 95 per cent of Serb artillery around Sarajevo could be wiped out by a single day of air strikes.

This explodes the myth, often cited by US intelligence, that it had no visual images of early violence in Bosnia, and that the war took America by surprise in an uncharted zone.

The Guardian has uncovered a secret briefing by the CIA and National Security Agency to a lone diplomat at the state department at the end of the bloody month of May 1992. The diplomat describes how he was shown aerial photographs revealing the guns around the Bosnian capital to be completely exposed.

He dispatched an urgent "action memo" to his superiors, but received no reply, and was later reproached for sending it.

Weeks later, another CIA briefing to the Senate foreign relations committee said air strikes against the Serbs

would be "impossible". The dichotomy illustrates the duplicitous and farcical backstage struggle in Washington over how to handle the war.

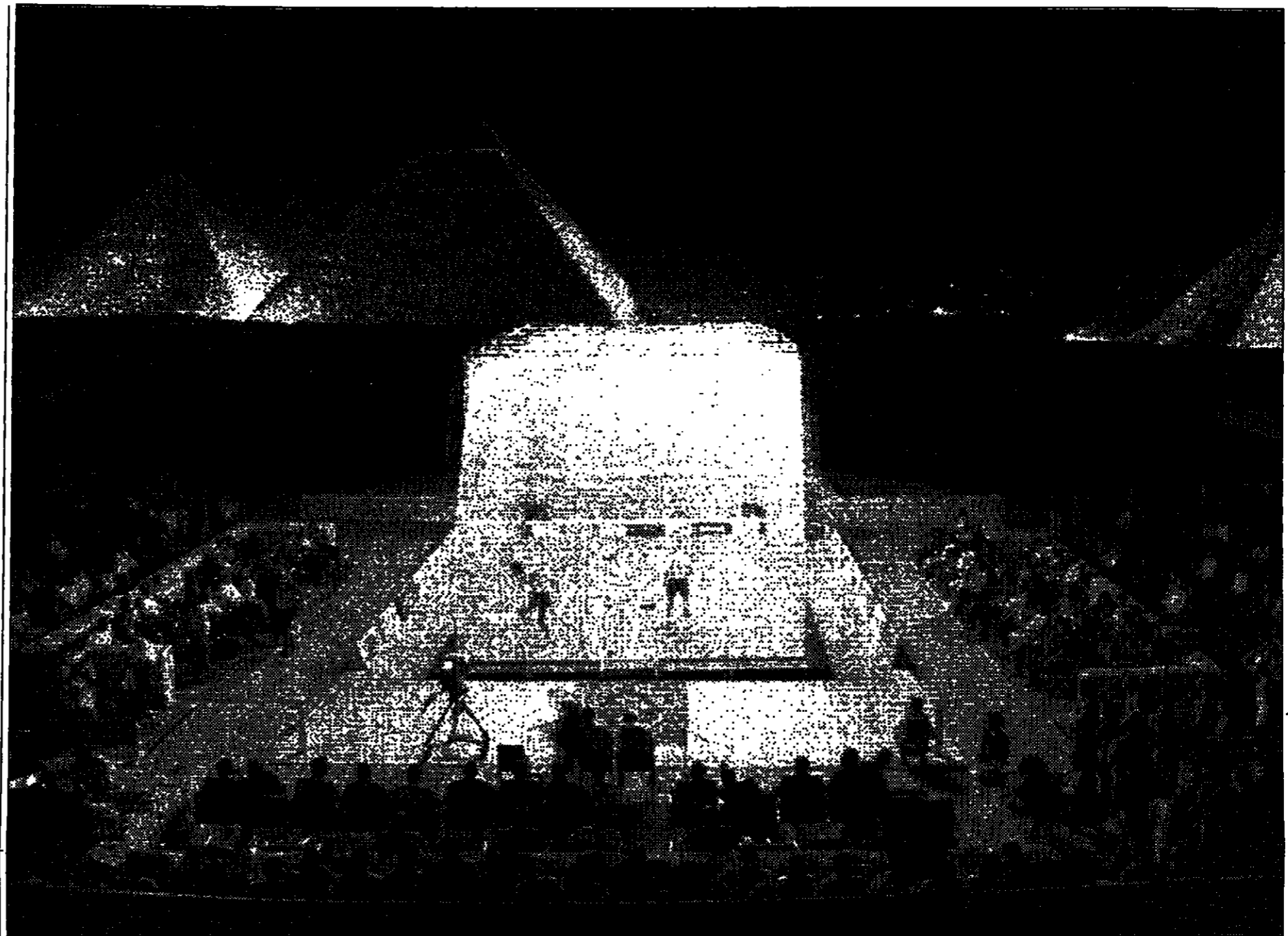
An investigation into this tussle, in which dissident officials speak out for the first time, unravels how other plans to end or prevent the carnage in Bosnia were stifled by a team at the top of the state department and National Security Council.

A secret offer by France, made three times in 1991, to provide peacekeeping paratroopers for Bosnia if they were matched by America was turned down despite pressure from diplomats convinced that such a force could have prevented the carnage.

The former US ambassador in Belgrade, Warren Zimmerman — who resigned from the diplomatic service in protest — argued for a preventive peacekeeping force in Bosnia as early as November 1991. He was overruled by the United Nations envoy, Cyrus Vance.

In the Guardian today, Mr Zimmerman admits: "Had I been smart enough, I wouldn't have taken no for an answer."

The Secret War, page 7; Leader comment, page 8



The illuminated pyramids of (left to right) Khufu, Khephren and Menkaure frame a glass squash court set up on the Giza plateau near Cairo for the Al-Ahram International Championship. Britain's Simon Parke beat Derek Ryan of Ireland 17-15, 15-11, 15-7 in their second-round match on Saturday. PHOTOGRAPH: ENRIC MARTI

Brown pushes ahead with benefit cut

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

THE shadow chancellor, Gordon Brown, yesterday rejected Labour Party criticism of his plan to abolish child benefit for 16- to 18-year-olds and said it would go ahead.

Despite weekend criticism from the party's influential National Policy Forum, he insisted that the plan symbolised the kind of tough choices the party needed to make if it was to unleash resources for Labour's top priorities.

"We would not be serving the people who depend on the welfare state well if we make decisions about public spending that allow public spending to get out of control and it had to be reined back."

A closed session of the

forum in Manchester, examining five separate policy documents, heard criticisms of the leadership over its handling of the welfare state review with some accusing the shadow cabinet of conveying the impression that child benefit itself is under threat.

The formal report of the forum agreed that the proposal to review child benefit for 16- to 18-year-olds at school "had not been initially presented well", but it endorsed the principle of the review.

Mr Brown received mixed messages. He faced hostile questioning over his review in the forum, but received strong applause from a 500-strong party rally in Manchester for his insistence that it had to go ahead if Labour was to be seen to be making a credible effort to control spending.

Concern from traditionalists was also expressed at the forum over plans by the shadow social security secretary, Chris Smith, not to increase the basic state pension in line with earnings, but instead concentrate on new industry-wide second-tier pensions, details of which have yet to be published.

Labour's continuing edginess over the welfare state review was also underlined when officials mounted a damage-limitation exercise over an article under the name of the shadow employment secretary, Michael Meacher, promising that Labour would abolish the job seekers' allowance, the Government's much criticised replacement for unemployment benefit.

The article was written by the researcher to Mr Meacher, and was not shown

to him before publication. The researcher appears inadvertently to have breached party policy, but the episode did not deter the shadow foreign secretary, Robin Cook, the forum chairman, from claiming the forum, a 100-strong body designed to discuss issues in greater depth, had not only been the most successful in its three-year history, but also completed the party's policy-making process in advance of the election.

"Our weekend of intensive policy discussion revealed no policy splits in the Labour Party over the big issues facing modern Britain." The next task would be to collate all the party's policies into a single text, likely to be published in the summer.

The forum broadly endorsed papers on: life-long learning, including the party's submission to Sir Ron

Dearing's Government-inspired review of higher education; a new stakeholder economy, including more open regulation of the utilities; a transport strategy, including plans to use vehicle excise duty to minimise car use; plans for English regional assemblies; and a foreign and defence policy stressing influence in Europe.

French see red as Eric Cantona gets the boot from Euro 96 squad

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

FRENCH football bosses were yesterday deluged with hate-faxes and angry telephone calls after Eric Cantona was left out of the Euro 96 squad by the national trainer, Aimé Jacquet.

The snub to the Manchester United striker was based on "good sense" and faith in a young line-up which has been unbeaten for 20 matches, Jacquet said. "I have no qualms about my choice. I have weighed up the merits of all the best French players, including Cantona. Besides, I have no duty to British crowds."

The decision came as a

shock to French fans proud of Olympique de Marseille's former loose cannon, who is seen as having mastered his temper thanks to British discipline. Last week he became the first Frenchman to inspire a rendition of the Marseillaise at an FA Cup final, when he scored the winning goal.

French pundits were divided. Gérard Eines, of the sports daily, L'Equipe, said there was no history of animosity between Jacquet and Cantona. "When Jacquet was given the job in 1993 — after France's disastrous failure to qualify for the World Cup — Cantona was the first to support him."

Jacquet last selected Cantona in January 1995, to captain France in a friendly against the Netherlands. A week later, Cantona assaulted a Crystal Palace fan, which led to him being banned from United and the French national team.

Eines said: "Jacquet has transformed the French squad and his decision makes perfect sporting sense, without being a reflection on Cantona's ability. Jacquet is a group man. That is why Cantona is out."

Such musings did not appeal to French fans. They reacted by faxing their off-pitch advice to the French football federation, declaring "Saquez Jacquet".



Eric Cantona: trainer felt 'no duty to British crowds'

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Monuments to the art of this sporting life

Batley has unveiled the latest in its collection of modern outdoor sculptures — Britain's first contemporary works to be commissioned by a rugby league club

Monday sketch



Martin Wainwright

YOU can safely bet that there were plenty of people in Renaissance Florence who thought that the Medici had flipped over public spending, or made willie jokes about Michelangelo's statue of David.

So the West Riding textile town of Batley acquitted itself rather well yesterday at the unveiling of the latest in the town's amazing collection of modern outdoor sculptures — Britain's first works of contemporary art to be commissioned by a rugby league club.

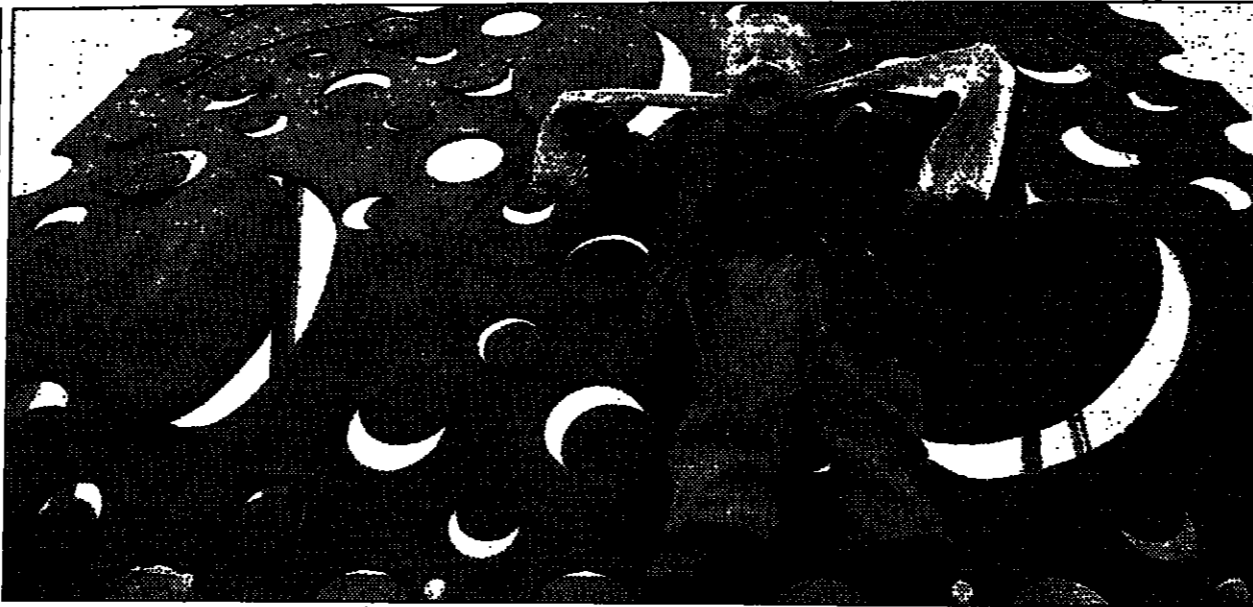
Fans of the Gallant Youths, the virtuous old nickname for Batley R.L.F.C. which is stoutly resisting current, post-modern attempts to replace it with The Bulldogs, gave a three-to-one welcome to Sporting Fabric and Fun at t'Game. Vivaldi different, one bronze and the

second a splash of painted steel, the £30,000 pieces are the 20th step in Brightening Batley, a programme designed to flag up economic regeneration via sculpture and other works of public art.

"You'd have to be dead mean to object to all them bright colours," said Pete Chalmers, puffing up Mount Pleasant for the match with Kelghley Cougars, and studying Fun's Beano-like figures for the first time.

He was echoed by the Lunat sisters, Hazra and Hava, whose sitting-room view now includes Sporting Fabric's medley of rugby, soccer, cricket and tennis balls, stretched on an old cloth-drying tenter-frame and illuminated at night.

"It puts Mount Pleasant on the map, tells people what's on round here," said Hazra, not a rugby league fan herself but interested in the football epics between Mac's Team and All's Team which take place all Sunday on the crumbly, six-sided pitch across Heritage Road from the R.L. ground. The lads playing yesterday were a little more divided, although most backed 14-year-old Shafiq Hussain's opinion: "Perfect, the bright colours are great. But it'd be easier to understand what it's about if they gave more of the characters Batley scarves."



A fan, Dominic Law, gives his views on one of the new works near Batley Rugby League ground

The sculpture-unveiling was no tuppenny-ha'penny affair: the jokes about "welcome on a Yorkshire summer day" (shiver, brrr) came from Rodney Walker, chairman of the Sports Council. Batley is going seriously for the big, sculptural time.

And why not, say the likes of Public Art's Chris Cowen,

who has overseen the sculpting of giant griststone bath-hand-painted tile house numbers and art lessons in nurseries, sheltered housing and the Kashmiri Welfare Association. "We seek to mark this time of change and to celebrate the town's progress towards a vital and exciting future," she says, echoing

Lorenzo the Magnificent's general approach. But in Batley? Don't scoff. The town is bigger (and much wealthier) than the Medici's Florence, sits on lovely geology (millstone grit stands in for Carrara marble) and has an enviable pedigree in human ingenuity. Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth

came from three junctions down the M62, while Batley's own Joseph Priestley discovered oxygen and Theodore Taylor's mill ran the world's first workers' shareholding scheme in the 1890s.

And the rugby league is an interesting ingredient too — a game with more in common with sculpture than you might

think. Not so much in aesthetics, the balletic double-step of a scrum-half stealing the ball, or that sort of thing; but the hard graft involved. Chris Cowen comments, as the wind hums round Fun at t'Game: "It can be very hard work moulding figures like these from steel. But look at the detail, like the fan watching a match on TV and knocking over his pint of beer."

"Actually," says Fun's creator, the sculptor Mick Kirby Geddes, "what I really like about working with steel is that everyone thinks it's such a tough job. Most of this is fairly thin sheet steel which you can twist and cut without too much trouble." Still, the force required can sometimes match the kick in a Batley-York match which resulted in a Gallant Youth having two teeth removed — on the pitch by the team coach. (They were then held up for the crowd to admire, causing two young women fans to faint.)

Not everyone was joining in the joy, however. A small focus of opposition gathered on the crowgreen bowling lawn behind the Batley Taverners' Club, whose resident dog, Judy, appears in Fun at t'Game, boldly painted sky-blue and with frisky sticking-up ears. "Those ears," admits Mr Kirby Geddes, "are the one thing I had to change.

Judy's always lie flat and that didn't look lively enough, so I took the liberty of altering them."

The women's team captain, Gloria Harrop, greets the new sculptures with a prolonged intake of breath and a meaningful: "What do I think? Well..." Her eyebrows arched and she declined the chance of crossing the road to join the windblown launching party.

"Sporting Fabric isn't what we thought we'd get, after we first met the artist and all got down on the floor drawing bits and pieces to show what we'd like. What's happened to our woods (the bowls used on the green)? They've got rugby balls and cricket balls and all the other balls, but you've got to look very hard to see any woods."

In fact, as the sculptor, Jeremy Cunningham, points out, they are there; but the Gallant Youths' traffic steward, spending all day opposite the piece, directing fans' cars, offers one practical reason why they aren't more obvious. Batley R.L.F.C. paid £10,000 of the commission (the rest coming from corporate sponsorship and heritage awards). "If the bowls people wanted bigger woods," says the steward, in brass-tack terms which both Medici and West Riding people would recognise, "they should've paid a bit more of 't' bill."

Back to beef and cold and rain for tired hostages

John Mullin

BILL Oates, newly rescued from one life-threatening experience, was at it again yesterday. His first request on arriving home was for Sunday lunch. He wanted roast beef and Yorkshire pudding.

With three other Cambridge University students, he had been held in captivity for 129 days, and so some speculated he knew nothing of the beef crisis. Others thought spending almost four months hostage in the Indonesian jungle might not worry about BSE into perspective.

But his family has a cattle farm in the Scottish borders, and his father is a champion breeder. A Sunday at home without roast beef was unthinkable, particularly after surviving for so long on caterpillars and fruit.

After a 17-hour flight from Jakarta, the Cambridge quartet, all natural science graduates, arrived at Heathrow early yesterday. Until the Indonesian special forces rescued them five days ago, they, with five Indonesians and two Dutch people, had been held in the mountainous Irian Jaya region by the Free Papua Movement (OPM), which suspected some might be spies.

They had gone last September to Irian Jaya to study wildlife. Mr Oates was botanical co-ordinator, and the four were entering an ancient civilisation discovered only 60 years ago by Westerners.

Jeremy Hanley, the Foreign Office minister, who met them at Heathrow, refused to comment on speculation of SAS involvement. The Indonesian troops had secretly tracked



Bill Oates greets his girlfriend, Kate Robson Brown, before joining his family for Sunday lunch

the hostages and their captives for a week.

Daniel Start, aged 21, from London, also spoke briefly, but Annette van der Kolk, aged 21, of Fleet, Hampshire, and Anna McIvor, aged 21, of Bourne-mouth, Dorset, said nothing at Heathrow airport.

Because of illness, Ms McIvor was unable to flee her captors as the rescue operation started. She watched them react violently, hacking to death two Indonesian hostages, and hid up a tree.

The hostages were about

to be released on May 8, World Red Cross Day, after negotiations between the Red Cross and the OPM. But, just before helicopters were to take them to safety, Kelly Kwalik, the rebels' leader, changed his mind. The hostages were marched in tears into the jungle.

Mr Oates, aged 23, from Jedburgh in the Scottish borders, said: "It's been a long time in the forest thinking about all the things we missed. It's great to be back. But we are considerably devastated that not all the group was able

to share these emotions with us. We left behind two good friends in the forest."

Mr Start said: "It's wonderful to be home on a typically English spring day, cold and wet, and especially joyous to be reunited with our families. Their memories kept us very strong."

"We are exhausted after the final few days. It's a huge culture shock after living half a year in a Stone Age civilisation."

The four had been taken hostage on January 8, and the Red Cross had been in negotiations with their cap-

tors from the following month, flying every day into the region where they were held. It dealt with dangerous, armed people.

"They worked very hard to gain the trust of these people and gain our unconditional release," said Mr Start. After Kwalik changed his mind about releasing them, the only solution was to send in the military, he added.

Later, at her parents' house, Ms Van Der Kolk said: "It's very, very good to be home. Everyone has been absolutely wonderful."

Top firms stop cash for Tories

Lisa Buckingham

FINANCIAL support for the Conservative Party among Britain's biggest companies has collapsed leaving the Government with only a handful of backers in the run-up to the election.

And Central Office has been given notice that support will dry up even further next year. Research by the Guardian shows that just 12 of the top 100 companies which have published annual reports for 1995 are continuing to give money to the Tories.

Of the groups which have still to provide details, the Government can rely only on Dixons, Marks & Spencer and Tomkins to remain loyal.

The defections mean the Government will probably collect just £520,000 from Britain's biggest companies — roughly half the support it gained in the run-up to the last election when 29 corporations made donations.

The Tories have clearly been snubbed by a number of big corporations alienated by government policies. The brewer and retailer, Whitbread, for example, cancelled its long-standing support following a perceived failure

Mawhinney to hold internal investigation into donations

continued from page one

close whether any donation was made subsequently.

Mr Kennedy dismissed the Sunday Times story as fantastic nonsense whilst the businessman, who remained unnamed yesterday, issued a statement through solicitor Carter-Ruck rejecting the newspaper's claims.

They said their client was a British citizen of Yugoslav birth with substantial assets who had lived in the UK for more than a decade. "Our client is outraged by any suggestion that he is linked in any way to Radovan Karadzic or the Bosnian Serbs. We are instructed that our client has never met, communicated with, or been associated with, Radovan Karadzic in any way whatsoever." It said the businessman had never been associated with anyone in the Bosnian Serb leadership, and never handled money or assets from them.

Mr Mawhinney said he would be speaking to Mr Kennedy about the allegations, as well as to party treasurers.

Mr Kennedy said he had not raised any money from outside the UK, nor had he "raised any amount, either in total or in part, of either £50,000 or £100,000".

Dance where complexity becomes simplicity

Review

Judith Mackrell

Trisha Brown Company Theatre Royal Brighton

AMERICAN choreographer Trisha Brown happily describes herself as a structure freak. Although the surfaces of her dances often have the rich and accidental beauty of a landscape, with rustling moves that look as if breezes are blowing through the dancers, or angular planes as surprising as rock formations, her dance is always pinned to tight mathe-

tical designs. A single phrase will be rigorously repeated, inverted, condensed and embellished as if a computer had been programmed to work out all its possible variations.

And there is usually one single organising idea that motors each piece, an idea that has the resonance of metaphor.

In the 1983 classic *Set and Reset* (which opens the company's current programme) the focus of the dance shifts very gradually from one side of the stage to the other. When the seven whirling, diving, gusting dancers finally exit it's as if we've been watching a weather front blowing across the space.

In the 1994 solo, if you couldn't see me, Brown (who at 59 is lean and spine-like as a witch) dances entirely with her back to us. Its extraordinary how forcefully a personality can be projected through the curve of a shoulder, the moulding of a spine, the flattened palm of a hand.

Then in her latest piece, *M.O.*, Brown creates dance structures to Bach's *Musical Offering* where complexity is pared down to such simplicity that form becomes loaded with drama. In the first section dance and music create a multi-layered puzzle in which dancers ripple and weave in counterpoint with each other, as well as with the music.

Even the tiniest shifts of an

arm can register an independent rhythmic variation. But just as our eyes and brain are ready to short circuit on the amount of information we're receiving, lovely moments occur when the dancers and the music all unite in harmonic resolution.

Then, meticulously, the piece is deconstructed into shorter sections of music and dance, disrupted by whole passages of silence and emptiness. Brown shows us things in isolation a dust for two men whose bodies curve sweetly towards each other even as their feet patter contrasting music. Or a typical Brown prank where she has five dancers trying to cross the stage in a unison line

but choreographs all their movements slightly off the beat so that they look like a fidgeting blur.

Progressively as the work pares down, the dancers' black costumes are replaced by white and grey, as if to let in even more light and air. And finally only one dancer (Diana Madden) remains. Dressed in white she dances to the sound of the bare musical phrase which is the seed to all other variations of Bach's score.

At the close she is rejoined by the others who move together in a frieze of sculpted dance. The climax to which the piece has been moving is to make us see Bach's music and hear Brown's movement with sublime clarity.

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State broadcaster faces £3m bill for staging 1997 contest



Eimear Quinn, who won the Eurovision song contest for Ireland, the country's fourth win in five years. PHOTOGRAPH: JON EBER

Irish eyes crying as victory sees Eurovision curse striking yet again

David Sharrock
Ireland Correspondent

THE curse of Eurovision has struck in Ireland yet again. The republic's impoverished state broadcasting company, Radio Telefís Éireann, was yesterday contemplating the prospect of pouring another £3 million into staging the song contest for the fourth time in five years. The days are long gone when an Irish victory in the Eurovision was something to celebrate. As Eimear Quinn stormed ahead of the rest of the field on Saturday night, a typical reaction from viewers in Dublin was: "Holy mother of God! What have we done?" An Irish diplomat commented: "This is just terrible. We can't afford it, not with

the European Union presidency coming up." The Sunday Independent said it was a plot by Ireland's European so-called allies. "For years the scam has been well-known throughout European TV stations," said the paper. "Put up a lousy song, you get a three-hour TV show costing millions and you make sure the Irish patshies will take the whole thing seriously and end up paying for next year's gig." Only the British did the decent thing and awarded *nul points* to Ms Quinn, whose song *The Voice* has wreaked such havoc with RTE's budgetary forecasts for 1997. A Eurovision win a decade ago would have commanded headline news, but RTE buried the story in its late news on Saturday. Yesterday



Winning habit

1970: Dana (left) with *All Kinds of Everything*
1980: Johnny Logan with *What's Another Year*
1987: Johnny Logan again with *Hold Me Now*
1992: Linda Martin with *Why Me*
1993: Niamh Kavanagh with *In Your Eyes*
1994: Paul Harrington and Charlie McGettigan with *Rock 'n' Roll Kids*
1996: Eimear Quinn with *The Voice*.

its head of programmes, Liam Miller, tried to sound thrilled at the prospect of hosting the 42nd Eurovision song contest. Instead, he seemed to hint that if the company could find a way out then it would be seized. "I think it's another challenge for us, it's one we are going to have to consider very carefully," he said. An estimated television audience of 300 million people saw Ms Quinn, aged 23, take the title in Oslo. Her victory, with 168 points, was so emphatic she was declared winner with two voting rounds to go. The UK's entrant, Gina G, finished seventh with *Ooh Aah Just a Little Bit*.

At least the Irish prime minister John Bruton sounded pleased. "Once again Ireland's musical talent has been demonstrated on the international stage." But his was a lone voice. The fourth win in five years means RTE faces a total bill of approximately £11 million, none of which can be recouped through advertising since the show is given free to participating nations. Ireland's only hope seems to lie in making such a batch of British hit singles and commitments to Radio 4's *Kaleidoscope* and *GMTV*, meant he did not have the time for *Morning Collection*. Mr Kenyon, who has been

Killer diseases making a comeback, says WHO

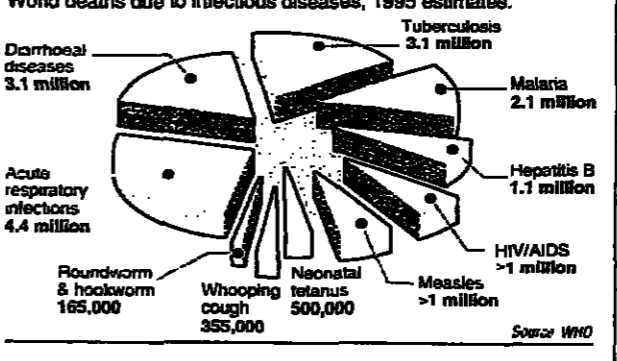
Chris Mihill
Medical Correspondent

OLD diseases once thought conquered are making a deadly comeback in many parts of the world while new diseases are emerging which in some cases are untreatable, the World Health Organisation says today. Nearly 50,000 men, women and children were dying every day from infectious diseases such as cholera, malaria and tuberculosis, many of which could be prevented or cured for as little as \$1 per person.

At least 30 new infections had emerged in the past 20 years and now threatened the health of millions. For many of those diseases there was no treatment, cure or vaccine. "Without doubt, diseases as yet unknown, but with the potential to be the Aids of tomorrow, lurk in the shadows."

In its 1996 annual report, the organisation says that complacency that infectious diseases had been beaten allowed them to resurface in many countries. Antibiotics, the most powerful weapon against infection, were becoming increasingly less effective as organisms became resistant,

Ten biggest killers



and not enough effort was being made to find new products. Hiroshi Nakajima, WHO director general, says in the report. "We are standing on the brink of a global crisis in infectious diseases. No country is safe from them. No country can any longer afford to ignore their threat." "The optimism of a relatively few years ago that many of these diseases could easily be brought under control has led to a fatal complacency... This complacency is now costing millions of lives — lives that we have the knowledge and means to save, yet that we are allowing to trickle through our fingers." The report says that until recently the struggle for control over infectious diseases had seemed almost over, with smallpox eradicated and six other diseases, including polio, leprosy and guinea-worm disease, targeted for eradication within the next few years. However, infectious diseases were still the world's leading cause of death, killing at least 17 million people — most of them young children — every year. Up to half of the 5.73 billion people on earth were at risk of many endemic diseases. "Far from being over, the struggle to control infectious diseases has become increasingly difficult. Diseases that

seemed to be subdued, such as tuberculosis and malaria, are fighting back with renewed ferocity. Some, such as cholera and yellow fever, are striking in regions once thought safe from them.

"Other infections are now so resistant to drugs they are virtually untreatable. In addition, deadly new diseases such as Ebola, for which there is no cure or vaccine, are emerging in many parts of the world."

In 1995, respiratory infections such as pneumonia killed 4.4 million people, about 4 million of them children. Diarrhoeal diseases, including cholera, typhoid and dysentery, spread chiefly by contaminated water or food, killed 3.1 million, most of them children.

Tuberculosis killed almost 2.1 million, including 1 million children; hepatitis B killed more than 1.1 million; HIV and Aids killed more than 1 million; and measles killed more than 1 million children.

Among new diseases identified since 1973 were rotavirus, which causes infant diarrhoea; Legionella, which causes Legionnaire's disease; the Ebola virus; the Hantaan virus, which can cause a fatal haemorrhagic fever; HTLV 1, which causes leukaemia; HIV; and hepatitis B and C.

Gambaccini quits amid protests

Andrew Cull
Media Correspondent

PAUL Gambaccini, the former disc jockey whose programme on Radio 3 sparked a listeners' rebellion, is to quit the network, it was announced yesterday.

He is to leave the classical music station's *Morning Collection* in September, a year after joining Radio 3 from Classic FM. The BBC insisted that his departure was entirely his own decision and said his programme would continue, despite vociferous opposition from MPs and the newly formed Campaign to Preserve Radio 3. Mr Gambaccini, who presented a classical chart show on Classic FM and previously worked for Radio 1, was recruited as part of attempts

by the controller, Nicholas Kenyon, to make Radio 3 more accessible.

Old-style presenters were faded out and a new schedule introduced to make it more welcoming to new listeners. It is the smallest of the BBC's radio networks with a weekly audience of 2.3 million.

Mr Gambaccini will be retained as a musical consultant to *Morning Collection*, which is made by an independent company, Mentorn. The BBC has extended its contract to produce the hour-long *Sax* programme until March 1998. Mr Gambaccini said: "I have hugely enjoyed presenting the programme." But work on his autobiography, on a CD-Rom of British hit singles and commitments to Radio 4's *Kaleidoscope* and *GMTV*, meant he did not have the time for *Morning Collection*. Mr Kenyon, who has been



Paul Gambaccini: denied protests forced him out

ing Radio 3's standards, paid tribute to Mr Gambaccini's work.

"Morning Collection has been an outstanding innovation in our schedules and its format has been welcomed by listeners." The BBC said that ratings for the slot, previously occupied by *Composer of the Week*, were stable.

Iain Gordon, founder of the campaign, which has collected 2,000 signatures protesting at changes to the station, said: "Paul Gambaccini has alienated a lot of people and they will miss him much. But I would much rather have *Composer of the Week* back in the slot."

Mr Gordon, a retired teacher from Folkestone in Kent, is seeking a meeting with Mr Kenyon. The BBC denied that Mr Gambaccini had been ousted by listener power.

Murder hunt after motorist is killed in road rage attack

Sue Quinn

POLICE began a murder inquiry last night after a motorist was stabbed to death in a road rage attack. The male victim, in his early 20s, was driving a red Bedford van when he became involved in a heated argument with the driver of a dark Land-Rover Discovery on a slipway off the M25 near Swanley, Kent. Kent police said that after the stabbing yesterday afternoon, the Land-Rover driver, a white man in his 40s, fled the scene, heading towards the Dartford tunnel. A spokesman said the cause of the altercation was unclear, and appealed for any witnesses to come forward. Kent ambulance service received an emergency call at about 1.30 pm. The victim was taken to the West Hill Hospital, Dartford, where he died. "We are recording this as a case of road rage," an ambulance spokesman said. Two days ago a judge, summing up in a road rage case, said there was an "epidemic" of such incidents in Britain. Earlier this month a motorist who ran over and killed a man as he lay injured after a hit-and-run accident in Leeds was jailed for four years for manslaughter. Leeds crown court heard that Paul Conlon, aged 29, was so furious at traffic delays caused by the accident that he drove through the jam, crushing to death Wayne Margrave, and seriously injuring a woman confronting him. Also this month, Colin Jones, aged 42, a taxi driver, was convicted of punching and kicking a London bus driver he believed had cut across him in the traffic. He is due to be sentenced this week.

Internet snares first criminal as FBI traps bank robber in the Web

Mark Tran in New York

THE FBI yesterday announced its first success in tracking down criminals through the Internet — the capture of a fugitive on its Ten Most Wanted list, a bank robber hiding in Guatemala. The cyberspace breakthrough came after someone living in Guatemala, who had seen a photo of Leslie Isben Rogge on the FBI's home page on the World Wide Web, tipped off the FBI that Mr Rogge was living in Guatemala. Armed with this information, the Guatemalan police launched an extensive manhunt with the help of security personnel from the US embassy and Americans living in Guatemala. Mr Rogge, "feeling the intense pressure," turned

himself in to the US embassy on Saturday. He returned to the US in handcuffs yesterday and will appear in a Miami court today.

The FBI started its home page — web address <http://www.fbi.gov> — a little over a year ago. It consists of general information about the bureau, speeches, a freephone number, and the FBI's Ten Most Wanted fugitive list, with pictures of the fugitives and descriptions of the crimes they are accused of committing. Mr Rogge, aged 56, appeared on the list in 1990. A convicted bank robber, he escaped from federal custody in Idaho in 1985. Since his escape he has been charged with the robbery of the Exchange Bank of Eldorado in Arkansas and is wanted in connection with two other bank robberies.



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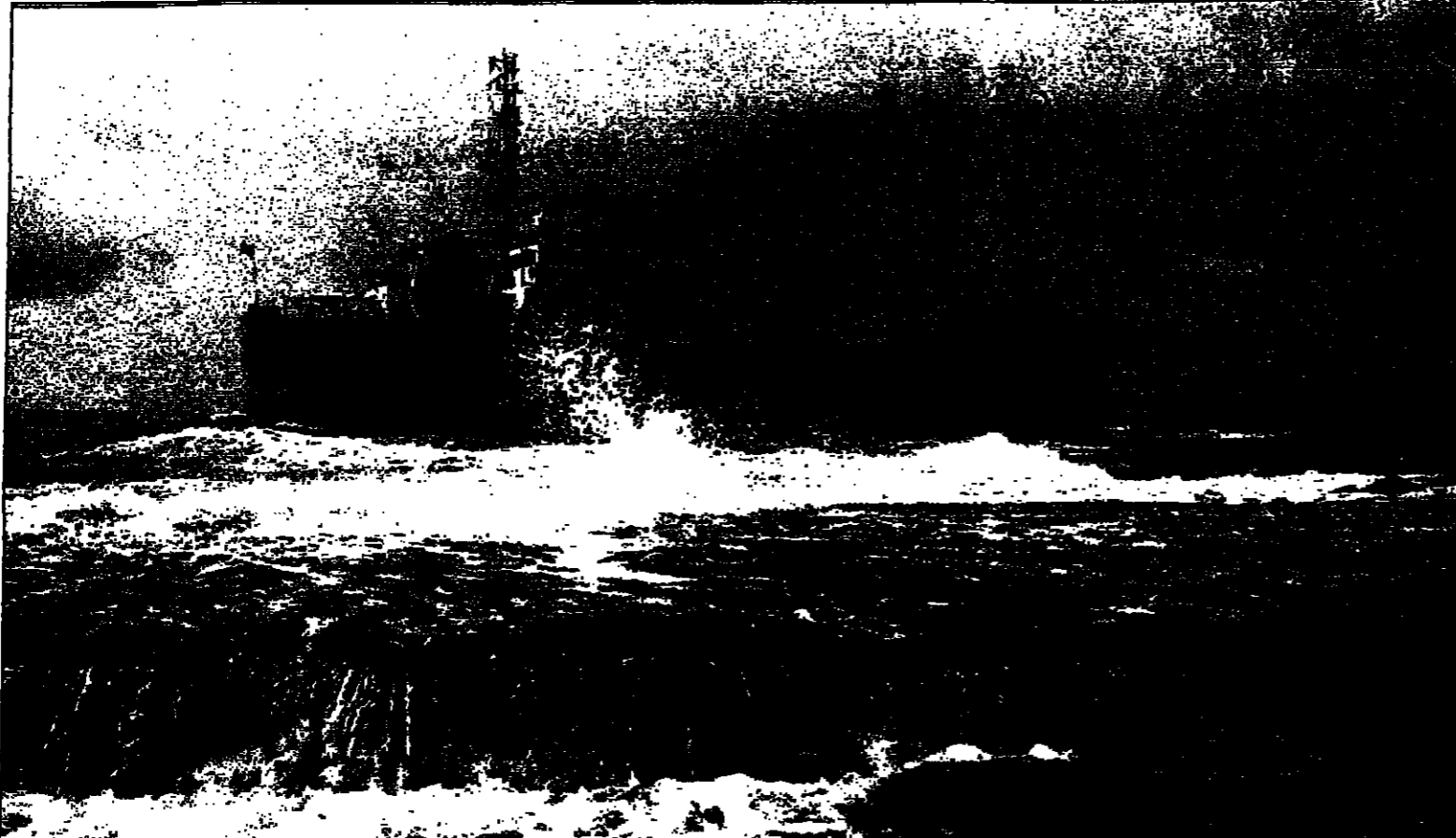


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"The view is that the people you upset by not going over the top about her death would be upset for longer and with more consequence than the people you would upset by going over the top about it."
BBC news-speak on the Queen Mother's demise

G2 cover story



The dredger City of Portsmouth, beached with engine failure in gales on its way out of Langstone harbour, Hampshire

NUT sets deadline for insurance cover guarantee

Teachers threaten to boycott sport

John Carvel
Education Editor

TEACHERS last night threatened to boycott supervision of after-school sport unless school authorities guarantee within 48 hours that adequate insurance cover is in place. Doug McAvooy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said a recent court case puts teachers at risk of heavy damages if pupils are injured in training or matches out of normal school hours. The union will advise its members "to end participation in out-of-school sport until the position is rectified."

Such a boycott could pose a particular threat to the school cricket season and affect other team sports which are commonly supervised by volunteer teachers after normal school hours and on Saturdays. It would apply whether or not the sports were played on school premises. The union's warning came after mounting concern about the implications of a High Court case last month when a rugby player successfully sued a referee after being seriously injured in a match in October 1991 when he was 17. He claimed £1 million but damages have not yet been assessed. Ben Smolton was paralysed from the shoulders down during a game between Sutton Coldfield and Burton upon Trent Colts. In the first case of its kind, he sued the referee, Michael Nolan, for failing to keep proper control of the match. Mr Justice Curtis ruled in his favour, saying Mr Nolan had fallen below the standard of a reasonably competent referee. Mr McAvooy said he was confident teachers were covered by employers' liability insurance while supervising sport during normal school hours, but it was not sufficiently clear that the protection extended to out-of-school activities. Cover was supposed to be in place under an agreement

this way, so will be the sporting future of the nation," he said.

Other teaching unions have also advised members to check their insurance cover before agreeing to supervise sports.

The Department for Education and Employment said insurance cover was a matter for the employers. The Government had no responsibility to tell them what to do. It would be prudent for local education authorities and grant-maintained schools' governing bodies to consider such insurance.

● The Government plans to allow schools to exclude children for up to 45 days at a time instead of the present 15 days, it was confirmed yesterday.

● The Education Minister Robin Squire said on BBC radio the Government intended to implement the change "as soon as we have the chance".

Ministers hope the move, included in legislation intended to deal with disruptive children, will halt the inexorable rise in permanent expulsions, now more than 11,000 a year.

Schools say part of the reason for the increase is the removal of their power to exclude disruptive children for indefinite periods. They say excluding children for just 15 days does not allow enough time for the cause of their behaviour to be addressed.

● Extending temporary exclusions was last month signalled as an option by Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary.

'We are trying to protect teachers from financial ruin. Sport cannot thrive in uncertainty'

Moors rescue after freak storm



Ten Tors walkers reach Okehampton camp after being taken off gale-swept Dartmoor

Sarah Bosely
and Sue Kuxen

SIX pupils who went missing in sleet, snow and driving rain on Dartmoor were found in an army search and rescue operation last night as gales caused a number of freak accidents across the South. They had been taking part in the annual Ten Tors walk, which had to be called off for the first time in 10 years. The team, aged 16 and 17, from Bideford college, Devon, had not made contact since Saturday evening, and army organisers had been deeply concerned for their safety.

A spokesman said last night they had returned to Okehampton army base and that all participants in the event had been accounted for. It was unclear whether rescuers had found the six, or whether they had made it back to safety themselves. Two navy Sea King helicopters, two air force Gazelles, 40 members of the Dartmoor Rescue Group with trucks and 10 dogs, and the St John Ambulance Brigade had been involved in the search.

A team from Truro school, also feared missing, turned up in the base, having failed to check in at the finish. After the expedition was called off at 2pm, four-wheel-drive vehicles brought walkers off the moor to the base, while helicopters picked up those in remoter areas. Of the 2,400 entrants, aged 13 to 15, 1,000 had already dropped out because of the conditions.

Only about 60 of the 400 teams finished the course. Ms Nash said everyone who had spent the night on the moor would get their medal. Elsewhere, seven children were taken to hospital after a gust tore a bouncy castle from its moorings at a fair in Sevenoaks, Kent. None had serious injuries.

In Hampshire, the navy rescued seven people stranded overnight on a dredger, the City of Portsmouth, which ran aground at Langstone harbour as winds gusted at up to 80mph. Up to 40 people had to be evacuated from boats in Poole harbour, Dorset, as winds gusted up to gale force nine. A driver was killed when his car left the M5 in Gloucestershire in strong side-winds.

● The London Weather Centre said last night the weather would improve radically this week, with temperatures doubling in some parts.

Ben Smolton was paralysed from the shoulders down during a game between Sutton Coldfield and Burton upon Trent Colts. In the first case of its kind, he sued the referee,



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Oasis dilemma for Forsyth

Erland Clouston

MICHAEL Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, will soon face one of the hardest decisions of his career: whether to cancel two concerts by the super-group Oasis. The fate of the Manchester musicians' August appearance on the banks of Loch Lomond seems certain to be determined by the highest political authority in the land after assertions that the expected audience of 80,000 would inundate one of Scotland's beauty spots. Residents and businesses near Balloch country park, on the southern tip of Loch Lomond, have lodged so many objections to the proposed performances on August 3 and 4 that West Dunbartonshire county council, compromised by already letting the site, will be obliged to seek final approval from 41-year-old Mr Forsyth. Concern centres on the impact Oasis fans will have on the picturesque village of Balloch. The caravan park has been booked by Dutch and Austrian rallies, and the area has one single public lavatory. "They may put extra portable toilets on the concert site, but these people will be all over the village," a Balloch councillor, Margaret McGregor, complained. Mr Forsyth, who recently wore a baseball hat back to

front to publicise Scotland's all-party campaign against drugs, will find himself in a tricky position: if he licenses the event he will outrage many of his party's natural supporters but if he does not he will estrange a huge proportion of Scotland's youth vote which could have repercussions for his 703 majority in the nearby constituency of Stirling.

The feeling along Loch Lomondside has not been helped by the speed with which the promoters, Regular Music of Edinburgh, have acted. The 80,000 £22.50 tickets were off-loaded well before Wednesday's deadline for objections to the concert. Mark Mackie, of Regular Music, remains confident that authority will not pull the plug on Oasis. "It would be odd if the council rent us the park and don't give us planning permission," he said.

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Helen Nowicka on Oxfam's Clothes Code, aimed at improving conditions in suppliers' factories

Shops pressed on Third World firms

A LEADING charity is putting pressure on high street fashion retailers to guarantee decent working conditions in factories in developing countries which supply their stores.

Oxfam's Clothes Code campaign, launched today, urges retailers to ensure that staff in Third World factories are not exploited through excessive hours, intimidation or breadline wages.

Consumers will be asked to write to chain stores asking how the people who made the goods on sale are treated, and where clothes were manufactured.

By increasing awareness of the poor treatment garment workers routinely endure, Oxfam hopes to create a tide of public opinion which will persuade all stores to implement codes of conduct.

The charity has already questioned the UK's five leading clothes retailers, the Burton Group, C & A, Marks & Spencer, Next and the Sainsbury Group, about conditions at their overseas suppliers.

The amount of clothing chain stores buy from abroad varies. Marks & Spencer says 77 per cent of its garments are made in the UK, while the Burton Group, whose stores include Debenhams, Top Shop and Burton Menswear, imports about two thirds of

about working practices. Those unwilling to co-operate will find their contracts terminated.

A spokeswoman for the Sainsbury Group, which owns Selfridges, Richards, Warehouse and Dolcis, welcomed the Oxfam campaign and said talks would be held with the charity.

Other retailers say they already police conditions at their suppliers.

A spokeswoman for the Burton Group said it enforces its rules on minimum standards with factory visits and spot checks.

Andrew Stone, joint managing director of general merchandise at Marks & Spencer, said: "We are already doing many of the things Oxfam is asking us to do."

There are limited signs that some factory bosses want to improve conditions. In Bangladesh the Bangladesh Export Apparel Manufacturers Association, which makes baseball caps for export, offers staff discounts on treatment at the local hospital, a co-operative store with low prices and a hostel for single workers. The factory's output is 58 per cent higher than at comparable businesses.

Saidur Rahman, Bantail's part-owner and manager, supports the Oxfam campaign. Contented people work well and stay with the company," he said.

job to rebuild some of the huts that were blown down by the strong winds. In the roundhouse, a much more solid wooden structure using wind and solar power, two men were soldering the final touches to a central stove as people strummed guitars and slept around them.

On the wall are the beginning of a constitution written in felt tip pen - visitors must stay in Pure Genius, as the camp is called, a week before they get the title "project carer" which means they



Estela Silvestre, one of 75,000 workers in the Dominican Republic hit by a US trade deal PHOTOGRAPH: JAMES HAWKINS/OXFAM

'We are not allowed to get a drink of water or go to the toilet when we want to'

ESTELA Silvestre, aged 35, lives in the Dominican Republic and has worked in garment factories since she was 21. Since her husband died several years ago she has brought up her six children alone.

Despite poor conditions, demand for jobs in the country's sweatshops is intense as the US, the main destination for their products, has cut orders in favour of a trade agreement with Mexico. So far this year 75,000 garment makers, including Estela, have been laid off.

This was not the first time. She once lost a job at a factory when she fell ill and asked to take a few hours off to go to hospital. On another occasion she was sacked after refusing to have sex with a manager. Estela knows many women with similar stories. "In one factory a pregnant woman was just a few minutes late because she had been to the doctor, and she was sacked. This happens everywhere."

At her last factory Estela worked from 7.30am until 5pm, with a half hour lunch break at noon. She was paid

a piece rate and had to sew 72 items every hour to receive a bonus.

On a good week she took home about 500 pesos (\$20), but this was not enough to support her family and she had to work through her two week annual holiday and over Christmas to pay off her debts.

"Conditions are generally pretty bad," she said. "We are not allowed to get a drink of water or go to the toilet when we want to. We have to request a ticket from a supervisor and only one person can go at any one time."

Factories have improved marginally in recent years as a result of union activity, but even talking about setting up a workers' association can result in dismissal and blacklisting.

Derelict land occupiers dream of creating 'sustainable village'

Alex Bellos visits the Pure Genius camp where protest has spawned responsibility

TWO weeks after the occupation of derelict land owned by Guinness in south London, about 40 people are working to turn a political gesture into a sustainable home.

Five hundred campaigners, who moved on to the site in Wandsworth as a protest against land use, built toilets, painted walls, designed

homes and planted seeds. But a week ago, most drifted away leaving a core of 40 people to make it their home.

More who have learnt about the project from the widespread media coverage are arriving and the emphasis is now on creating a community structure.

Work is hard and there is lots of it. Yesterday it was a

start on the rota of gardening, cooking, washing-up, toilet cleaning and food gathering.

"Over the last few days we have been nudging people to be responsible. You cannot come here and just squat. The project comes first, you come second," says Jules, aged 27, an aromatherapy student.

People who do not pull their weight are asked to leave, as was the case last week with a man who spent too much time painting graffiti on the surrounding walls.

The village tries to be as

sustainable as it can be. Refuse from the two wooden toilets is used as compost on the numerous plant beds. Crops like marrows, potatoes and tomatoes have been planted as well as different types of herbs. A water tap on the side of the site has been connected to a network of hoses, fountains and the bath hut.

Until the crops can be harvested food comes from "skip runs" to places where markets and shops dump out of date produce. The villagers

are also donated food. "You won't starve if you're not too fussy," says one resident.

After a day's work the villagers meet for a communal meal and "chill out" in the roundhouse. They have a meeting and arrange plans for the following days.

Laurie, who arrived a week ago after seeing it on the television, says the atmosphere is like a 1970's commune. He says of one meeting: "We were all joining hands and it was a really beautiful experience. We were more than the

sum of our parts. It was like magic." Many local residents have applauded the project and the protesters have earmarked certain areas for allotments for them. A play area is used by children and a schoolteacher has taken his class there.

Guinness's application in the High Court last week for an eviction order was refused because its lawyers had not used the right legal terminology. It is expected to secure the order in the coming weeks.

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Feminists challenge the mullahs

The Iranian president's daughter, Faiza Hashemi (right), wants to win more influence for women, writes Kathy Evans



A NEW generation of Iranian feminists led by the daughter of the president is demanding the right to run for the highest post in government, including the presidency. Only a few months ago the idea of a woman candidate for the presidency would have raised a few laughs and little else. For the last 17 years since the Islamic revolution, Iranian women have been forced by law to abide by certain dress codes, barred from certain jobs, and kept on the sidelines in decision-making. Now, to the horror of the conservative clerics, women are demanding change in the wake of the unprecedented success of women candidates

in recent elections. The most spectacular success was scored by Faiza Hashemi Rafsanjani, the president's daughter, who won the second-highest number of votes. She was second only to Nataq Nouri, leader of the Combatant Clergymen's Association, who has already announced he plans to seek the presidency. Faiza Hashemi signalled the launch of her campaign for high office recently with a declaration in the country's leading feminist magazine that there was no religious objection to a woman becoming president. "One of the problems of women in Iran is that they are not present in high levels of government or decision-

making at the macro level," she told Zanan (Women) magazine, the Iranian feminist journal. "Women should now be getting to the higher levels including the executive level, the presidency. There is no religious bar to this, for Islam only says women cannot be judges."

She did not deny recent press speculation that her success in the general elections could pave the way for a presidential bid. "I did not enter the political arena with this idea in mind. It is too early to talk about this subject," she said. Much will depend on her father, President Hashemi Rafsanjani, she added. Mr Rafsanjani is barred by the constitution from standing for a third term as president next year and his political future seems uncertain. Any return to parliament even as its speaker would seem to be a setback for the man who has ruled Iran for the last seven years. Many Iranian analysts now believe that Ms Hashemi, aged 33, is well-placed for an attempt to secure the parliamentary speakership, or at the very least, deputy speakership. Success in this would boost the status of women deputies enormously and signal a new tone of liberalism and modernism — just the kind of development conservative clerics oppose. Only last year, parliament voted against setting up a special committee to look into women's issues. Since the election, Iranian

feminists have been particularly outspoken. A leading woman lawyer, Mehrangiz Kar, recently criticised the Guardians Council, one of the highest clerical and parliamentary bodies in Iran, for not including women. The council, which approves the Islamic suitability of all election candidates, is biased against women, Ms Kar said. In one provincial constituency where a woman candidate topped the poll, the council ordered the result to be cancelled. The emergence of Ms Hashemi coincides with an unprecedented debate in clerical circles about the status of women and whether the Islamic government has proved itself on women's issues. Most versions of Islamic law say women should expose only their faces and hands in public. The two girls had been wearing a full veil covering the face when they were turned away from school. — Reuters.

A number of pro-feminist clergy have written long articles in women's magazines challenging the Islamic Republic's attitude to women. Liberal-minded clergy are now even publishing their own women's magazines. To Western eyes, Ms Hashemi might appear an unlikely feminist. She always wears the black chador, the symbol of conservative Muslim womanhood, and forswears cosmetics. The only public hint of her liberal views so far came in her election posters. However she has argued that women should be allowed to wear a greater range of colours than the currently acceptable black, brown, grey and blue. For the last few years, Ms Hashemi's sole public office has been as head of the women's Olympic committee, responsible for encouraging women to enter sports acceptable to Islam. She was attacked recently by the radical cleric-backed group, Ansar Hezbollah, for urging that women be allowed to ride bicycles and motorcycles. Radicalism compared her with the Prophet Mohammed's wife, Ayesha, a figure viewed as anti-Shi'ite by Iranian Muslims.

Derek Brown in Jerusalem SYRIA yesterday accused Israel of violating the latest ceasefire agreement in Lebanon by targeting civilians in a retaliatory artillery attack. But Israel denied the charge, claiming that Hezbollah guerrillas broke the agreement by using civilians as shields. A Lebanese woman was injured in the Israeli bombardment, which followed a clash in which two guerrillas were killed and an Israeli soldier wounded inside Israel's occupation zone in south Lebanon. The subsequent artillery fire was aimed at villages north of the zone. One of the missiles — they were reportedly shells used in practice, without explosives or fuses — hit a woman in the foot in the village of Kfar Tibnit. Hezbollah leaders said the shelling was a clear breach of the April 26 ceasefire, under which both sides undertook not to target civilians. Ansar Hezbollah, for its part, said the ceasefire, brokered by the United States, ended a 16-day Israeli bombardment of Lebanon which killed almost 200 civilians and forced about 400,000 to flee their homes. Hezbollah, which has no legal standing in Lebanon, appealed to the government in Beirut to lodge a formal protest over the shelling. Syria, the key guarantor of the ceasefire, made its displeasure known in a report from the official news agency, Sana, which said: "Israeli forces this morning violated the April understanding by shelling civilian Lebanese areas north of the occupied part of south Lebanon. After the onslaught on Lebanon, which ended after Israeli shells hit a United Nations base in Qana and killed 102 Lebanese refugees, the US secretary of state, Warren Christopher, virtually pleaded with Damascus to help arrange a ceasefire. Yesterday, Syria's president, Hafez al-Assad, held talks with Lebanon's foreign minister on setting up a committee to monitor the ceasefire. Israel dismissed suggestions that its occupation forces had violated the cease-

fire. The co-ordinator of its policy on Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, told army radio that Hezbollah had "operated from a built-up area and withdrew to a village full of civilians". Israel had a right to defend itself against guerrilla-attacks, he said. Army spokesmen declined to comment on a report in yesterday's Observer newspaper that Israel has formed a commando death squad to find and kill Hezbollah officials and activists in Lebanon. A unit of the squad was reported to have triggered the disastrous artillery barrage on the UN base at Qana, when it asked for help on a search-and-destroy mission. The army did publicise the latest success in its campaign against another Islamist group, Hamas. Yesterday's Israeli papers carried prominent photographs of Hassan Salameh lying in a Jerusalem hospital bed, breathing through a respirator, after he had been shot and arrested by troops near the West Bank town of Hebron on Friday. Mr Salameh, described as Israel's most wanted man, is accused of organising at least three of four suicide bombings in Israel in late February and early March. The bombings claimed 63 lives. Mr Salameh has been blamed for at least 45. The arrest of Mr Salameh at a Hebron hospital, where he sought help after being shot while fleeing soldiers, who stopped him at a checkpoint, could boost public support for Israel's prime minister, Shimon Peres, before the May 29 general election. The head of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights has been arrested in Gaza City, officials said yesterday. The commission said Iyad Saraj had not returned home since leaving with Palestinian police officers on Saturday afternoon. "To our knowledge, no official accusation or charge has been made against Dr Saraj," a commission statement said. It said the arrest might be connected to Dr Saraj's criticisms in the New York Times earlier this month of Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

Court says Egypt's schools can ban Muslim veils

EGYPT'S higher constitutional court has upheld a ruling by the education ministry barring schoolgirls from wearing the Muslim veil. Newspapers in Cairo reported yesterday that the court had rejected an attempt by Mahmoud Sami Ali, the father of two girls who were expelled from school, to overturn the de-

creed, which he had said violated Egypt's constitution. Two years ago the education minister, Hussein Kamel Bahaeddin, introduced strict controls over school uniform for girls in a move against what he said was the growing influence of Islamic fundamentalist teachers. The girls' father said the rule infringed individual

liberty and contravened Islamic dress codes. But the judge said rulings on school uniform violated neither Islam nor individual liberty. Most versions of Islamic law say women should expose only their faces and hands in public. The two girls had been wearing a full veil covering the face when they were turned away from school. — Reuters.

Provinces incur Beijing's wrath

Mure Dickie in Beijing

CHINA has ordered a crackdown on separatist "terrorists" in its restive Tibet and Xinjiang regions, saying activists who oppose Beijing's rule must be crushed. In a rare admission of the severity of anti-Chinese feeling in the Himalayan region, the official Tibet Daily newspaper exhorted police to wipe out a campaign of bombings mounted by groups that support Tibet's exiled Buddhist leader, the Dalai Lama. A front-page editorial, seen in Beijing yesterday, said: "In the 'strike hard' crackdown on crime we must relentlessly pursue and show no mercy to those who transport, steal and hide explosives and firearms." The newspaper said the death penalty should be imposed wherever warranted. The call for action in the tightly controlled region followed several reports of isolated bombings in and around Lhasa by Tibetans opposed to Chinese rule. The London-based Tibet Information Network, which liaises closely with dissenters in the region, said that up to 80 people — at least 30 of them women — had been injured in a clash with authorities in Tibet on May 14. An official of the Lhasa People's Hospital dismissed TIN's report that two truckloads of wounded people had

been taken there after the clash. "I don't know anything about a riot or disturbance. There have been no wounded here," the official said. But a Western tourist, speaking on the telephone from Lhasa, said: "There has been some kind of disturbance. I heard about 40 people were hurt." Most monasteries near the Tibetan capital appeared to have been sealed off following reports of a disturbance in the city last week, the Western tourist said. Lhasa residents said on Saturday that officials had sealed off Ganden monastery, one of Tibet's largest, after anti-Chinese protests by monks. One monk was shot and dozens arrested, according to reports from the region. TIN said the demonstration erupted on May 7 after officials had tried to impose regulations banning the display in temples of photographs of the Dalai Lama. In Xinjiang, where Beijing has waged a sometimes brutal campaign to counter Muslim and ethnic nationalism, the official newspaper called for strategic targets to be guarded against sabotage. A front-page editorial in the official Xinjiang Daily said "violent terrorist activity" had killed innocent people and urged "protective measures to prevent enemy sabotage". It said: "We must crush the arrogance of enemy elements." — Reuters.



Innocent victims... More than 5,000 mourners attend a memorial service yesterday in the former convict settlement of Port Arthur, Tasmania, the site of last month's massacre of 35 people by a lone gunman. PHOTOGRAPH: BRUCE MILLER

Militias step up gun ban protest

Christopher Zinn in Sydney

SECURITY was tightened around several Australian politicians at the weekend, after threats from radical militia and gun groups opposed to the government's proposed ban on rapid-fire weapons. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation has increased protection around the prime minister, John Howard, it was reported. Four MPs in Queensland, including the premier, Rob Borbidge, were the targets of threats after Mr Howard announced the crackdown on

guns following the April massacre of 35 people in Port Arthur, Tasmania. Rob Owen, president of the Firearms Owners' Association, which has about 3,400 members, has warned that the "blood of people who oppose freedom" would be spilled. The British-born gun dealer and former soldier said militia groups, such as the Patriots and the AUSI Freedom Scouts, would flourish because of attempts to crack down on weapons. "Their growth will be encouraged. They will be a danger to unconstitutional governments like we have now."

The leader of the Scouts, Ian Murphy, said: "An unjust law is a tyrannical law, and there is no obligation to obey a tyrannical law." In Tasmania, about 5,000 people attended an open-air service amid the ruins of the Port Arthur convict settlement to remember the victims of the April 28 and 29 killings by a lone gunman. A Tasmanian, Martin Bryant, has been charged with one of the murders and is due to make his first court appearance on Wednesday by video from the Hobart prison hospital, where he is being held.

Party vows to make mums pay

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

ISRAELI voters keen to strike a blow for political correctness in the May 29 general election need look no further than the party led by Jacob Schlosser. Although there is no question of single-issue politics in Mr Schlosser's campaign, one of the many causes it champions is abortion on demand — for men. The issue is described in the manifesto of the Party of Men's Rights in the Family as "the right of men to prevent the birth of an unwanted child (forced paternity)". Mr Schlosser says: "We are talking about the right of a child to come into the world, only if he has two parents who are living together." He acknowledges that enforced abortion on paternal demand is a little strong. In a Schlosser-run democracy, a pregnant woman would be entitled to bear both her child and the entire expense of parenthood. This is only fair "if the woman is pregnant and she did it to catch a man", according to Mira Schlosser, Mr Schlosser's wife and number 2 on the party list of five candidates. Mrs Schlosser believes women have a duty to pay for their maternal responsibilities, as she did after her first marriage ended in divorce. She and her husband had three children, but all were over 18 at the time of the split and therefore no longer entitled to paternal support. Mr Schlosser is still paying 1,500 shekels a month (more than £300) towards the cost of bringing up his 12-year-old son from his first marriage. Married six years ago, the Schlossers have a daughter. The present state of affairs makes them angry. "Look, if a man is stupid, or a soldier, or unemployed, he has no money," Mr Schlosser says. "But if he has a child, he has to pay, even if the woman is a millionaire. Only the man must pay." With half a million divorced adults in Israel, the Schlossers believe they have an excellent chance of entering parliament. If they succeed, they will not only concern themselves with family issues. The other issues in their manifesto include the introduction of civil marriage, fair pensions for all, subsidised housing for young couples and a ban on animal experiments.

Divine puts her act on screen

Christopher Reed in Los Angeles

THE Los Angeles Police Department, under constant criticism for five years, is under fire again in Divine Brown's new pornographic video account of her Hollywood encounter last June with Hugh Grant. In an "interview" on the video, called Divine & Sunset: the British Experience, the ex-prostitute claims that as she "committed a lewd act" in Mr Grant's BMW on Sunset Boulevard, police officers deliberately watched before arresting them. Sadly, this claim is the video's most illuminating moment. Ms Brown is due in London next month to publicise the video in Britain, but its content will be toned down under British laws. The hard-core version is being released in dozens of countries and Michael Kovacs, an executive with the producers, hopes for sales of 100,000. It costs \$32 (\$21) in the United States and is "doing great", he said. The 82-minute epic features a British porn actor called Marc Davis, a rising sex star in LA, who portrays "Hugh". Ms Brown plays herself as a lady of the night. Yet the crucial incident, which happened at 1.30 am, is shown in broad daylight and — the unkindest cut of

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Monday May 20 1996
on truce
'broken'
ali raid'

News in brief

Yeltsin may shuffle pack to woo voters

BORIS Yeltsin, Russia's president, said yesterday he would consider reshuffling his cabinet and forming an alliance with anti-communists in an attempt to woo voters in the June 16 presidential election.

Caring banned

REJECTING the appeal of a man who hit his daughter, aged 10, with a belt, Italy's supreme court has ruled that corporal punishment is "culturally appropriate and legally unjustified".

Dole receives poll lift

BOB DOLE'S presidential hopes received a boost in the latest opinion polls after he retired from the Senate last week to concentrate on the presidential race.

Turks kill Kurdish rebels

THE TURKISH army, continuing a two-month-old offensive against Kurdish rebels, killed 38 guerrillas in a battle in the mountains of the south-east, officials said yesterday.

'Independence' anniversary

SOMALILAND, the self-declared Horn of Africa republic which has still to achieve international recognition, marked five years of independence with a military parade yesterday.

Saddam nears deal with UN

THE Iraqi president, Saddam Hussein, is expected to respond within 24 hours to a United Nations offer allowing Iraq to sell limited quantities of oil to raise funds for food and medicine, the UN said yesterday.

Troops mutiny

MUTINOUS troops in the Central African Republic who are holding the army chief of staff said they were ready to negotiate with the government and had no political aims.

Poll disenchantment

VOTERS in Ecuador, disenchanted with their politicians over a corruption scandal and economic policies that hurt the poor, voted yesterday in elections in which no presidential candidate appears to have a clear lead.

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America's big strategic lie

War in the former Yugoslavia seemed to catch the US government off guard. In fact, writes Ed Vulliamy, that is far from the truth



LATE in July, 1992, as "ethnic cleansing" and the Sarajevo siege hit a ferocious new high, a team from the Pentagon and CIA was reported to brief the Senate foreign relations committee.

was divided before the war began. Institutions of state were inclined to steer clear of the Balkans, regarding them as Europe's insoluble problem.



'We do deserts, we don't do mountains,' was how General Colin Powell justified American intervention in Somalia rather than Bosnia

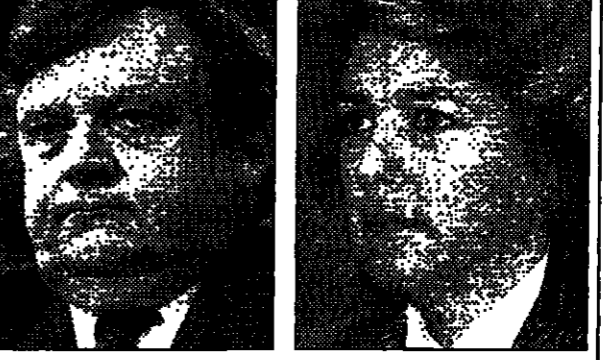
The first mutterings about using force against the Serbs accompanied the sieges of Vukovar and Dubrovnik in 1991.



'It was a disgrace. Cowardly and insidious, the way they carried on,' The refusal of the chiefs of staff to act infuriated Warren Zimmermann



Cyrus Vance: before the war had begun, the UN envoy rejected plans for preventive peacekeepers



Lawrence Eagleburger: Mr Baker's number two was warned in early 1991 there would be a war in Bosnia

President Bush's team included, by chance, powerful veterans of service in Belgrade. Mr Baker's number two was Lawrence Eagleburger, who had promoted Yugoslav trade and financial interests in the West.

"A lot was happening but the system had ceased to function," said one diplomat. "We dug in as a foreign policy machine, but this was just Eagleburger on the phone to Vance and Scowcroft. Our action memos would come back marked 'overaken by events' or 're-submit'.

Wily Karadzic foxes Bildt over promise to resign

Julian Borger in Zagreb

INTERNATIONAL mediators in Bosnia claimed yesterday to have won a promise from Serb separatists that Radovan Karadzic, the indicted war criminal, would step down from power.

Mr Karadzic and his military commander, General Ratko Mladic, have been widely viewed as the greatest obstacles to the success of the Dayton peace settlement.

The Bosnian Serb "republic" looked close to splitting last week, when Mr Kasagic ignored his dismissal by Mr Karadzic, and rallied moderate opponents of the regime in the western city of Banja Luka.

of the sea-change was department spokesman, Margaret Tutwiler, whose job was to deliver the line. But colleagues recall her close to tears of rage, pleading "I can't lie to the press" and pressing Mr Baker to take a tougher line.

vows to
mums pa

ardian
ed for excellent
charity field

Of course it's a real shot. You wouldn't think I would manufacture a toilet, would you? There are lots of outside toilets in Britain.
Mike Leigh on his latest film.

G2 page 4

Mr Karadzic loses his grip

At least we hope that he has

IS Radovan Karadzic really on the way out? That would be a remarkable outcome from a weekend of Bosnian confusion and intrigue. Unfortunately the optimism of the mediator Carl Bildt is unlikely to be justified without a great deal more effort from the international community which he represents. The shakeup in the Bosnian Serb leadership began last Wednesday when Mr Karadzic sacked his prime minister, the more moderate Rajko Kssagic. Now Mr Karadzic himself has stepped down, probably under pressure from Serbia's President Milosevic. But the result is still to leave hardliners in charge of the Bosnian Serb regime at Pale — and Mr Karadzic at best still in the wings. Nor does it do make any more probable the prospect of a multi-ethnic Bosnia, as envisaged in the Dayton peace agreement.

The chances of a multi-ethnic outcome were already negligible before US intelligence officials in Washington said so — and made sure their version got out in the New York Times on Friday. Both the Bosnian Serb Republic and the Sarajevo government have been quite happy to see the Sarajevo suburbs stripped of their industrial machinery, and then abandoned by most Serb residents under pressure from Pale. Those who remained were soon subject to intimidation by the incoming Muslim administration. The Serb regime has preferred instead to concentrate the new refugees in areas such as Brcko and Srebrenica to ensure their ethnic dominance. The Bosnian federal authorities in all except one of the Sarajevo suburbs refused to negotiate with the Serb side, and ignored Dayton's provisions for Serb participation in the city's management. As the War Report journal noted last month, "Sarajevo is re-united, but Bosnia-Herzegovina itself has moved ever closer towards final division."

The international force in Bosnia has turned a blind eye to the worst violations. Nato proves to be as weak as the much-maligned UN — indeed weaker, since it is now operating under conditions of peace which should make its task easier. The latest incident this weekend shows there is still no attempt to deter Serb intimidation of refugees passing through their territory or seeking to return home. The Implementation Force (IFOR) has adopted the lowest possible profile on the apprehension of war criminals. All hopes are still vested in President Milosevic, whose intervention will, it is supposed, somehow magically result in both Mr Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic being handed over to the War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague.

If cracks in the Bosnian Serb regime really are beginning to appear, then it is all the more important for the member states behind IFOR to speed up the process by adopting a tougher stand. First, they must declare their intention of ensuring by military means if necessary that the Dayton provisions are carried out, particularly on the return of refugees. Second, they should postpone the arbitrary cut-off date of December 20, after which the Nato peacekeeping force is supposed to disappear. As The Guardian has argued all along and Washington (which set the date) is beginning to realise, this will be a bug-out to disaster.

Dangerous donors

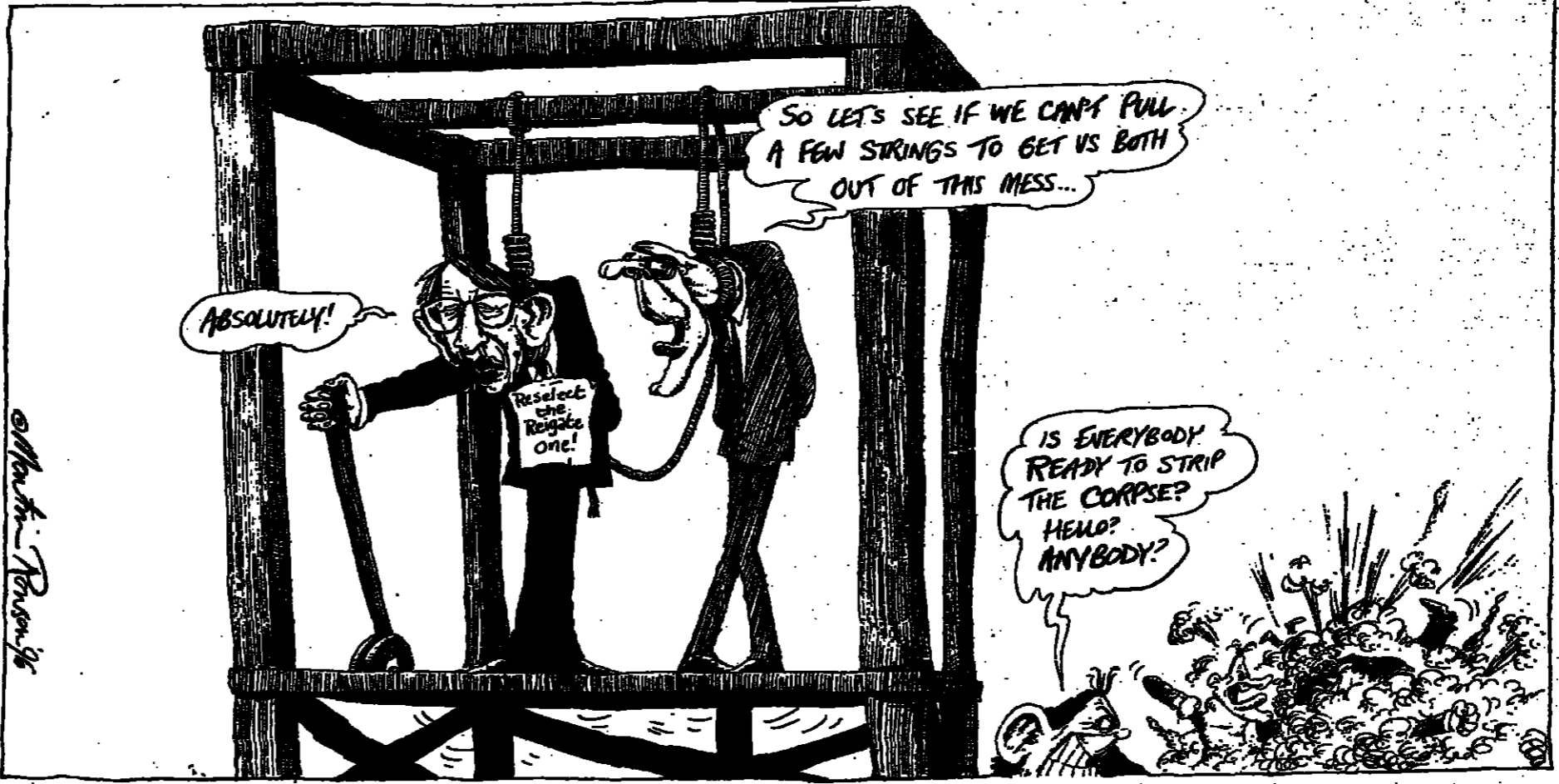
No more foreign money for our parties

MEANWHILE anyone rash enough to doubt that even a weakened Mr Karadzic still has gas in his tank only needed to study the domestic pages of the weekend newspapers. The allegation that Bosnian Serb sources may have donated more than £100,000 to the Conservative Party during 1992-94 is as hotly disputed by Central Office as one would expect. Yet many of the facts listed in the Sunday Times article yesterday have not been denied, and the speed with which Brian Mawhinney and his team tried to hose the story down yesterday shows just how deadly dangerous a claim it is.

The full story will have to await further information. Yet circumstantially the Bosnian Serb allegation is only too plausible. The Conservative Party is in serious financial difficulty, and was in an even worse state when the alleged payments were being discussed. Membership is down. Many rich backers have never forgiven the party for dumping Lady Thatcher and have turned off the funding tap accordingly. Others, including several corporate donors, have decided not to pour further money into what looks like a lost electoral cause. Some have even begun flirting with the Labour Party instead. But the party's need for money makes it more interested than ever in big donations, including big foreign donations. And in any case, given the offshore base of so much of contemporary capitalism — Serbian as well as British — it is not always easy to be sure what is a foreign donation and what is not.

The larger point here is that this is not the first time that foreigners may have tried to bankroll the Conservative Party. What is more, under the very inadequate rules governing party funding, it is most unlikely to be the last. The Conservative Party says it will not accept money from foreign governments, heads of state, anonymous sources or from criminals. But there is no ban on foreign donations. Indeed the party has actively sought to promote Britain as a haven for foreign tax exiles who have responded gratefully by writing cheques to the Tories. The Conservatives have also pioneered the raising of funds abroad during the last decade, trading largely on Lady Thatcher's reputation. Other countries — including the United States, Canada and most EU member states — do not allow foreign nationals to make donations to their political parties. We are an exception. We are repeating what we have seen.

It is high time that all questions concerning party funding were referred to the Nolan Committee and incorporated into effective rules. The Conservatives responded to yesterday's claims with the counter-allegation that Labour also has much to hide in its financial links with the trades unions. There is undeniably some truth there, though Labour has pledged itself to a much more open system of accountability than the Tories have ever done. But in any case, the Conservatives are missing the main point about the Serbian case. The trades unions and their members are British citizens and taxpayers. Foreign donors like Asif Nadir, John Latsis, Octav Botnar and various Hong Kong business leaders are not. Nor is Radovan Karadzic. That is the fact about Conservative Party funding that sticks in the craw of the average voter, and quite rightly so.



Letters to the Editor

Cycle of terror

THOSE who take some interest in the protection of children at risk know that breaking the cycle of terror endemic in child abuse is paramount. If you stop the abusers, you stop the abuse. If the money donated to NCH Action for Children by the late Arthur Mullard (Doubts over legacy of abuser's son, May 16) helps to rehabilitate the perpetrators of child abuse or the hidden pain of defenceless children, then it should be readily accepted. Unless, of course, you can think of a better way of using it.

(Cllr) Bill Nolan, Coventry City Council, Earl Street, Coventry CV1 5RR.

BY adopting the slogan "Yes it hurt. Yes it worked", the Conservatives proclaimed themselves the party of calm and pragmatism. Alastair Bruce, 49 Rowland Road, London SW6 6AF.

Tragedy of Irian Jaya

THE RECENT murders of two Indonesian hostages by members of the OPM was a terrible tragedy, not just for the victims, but also for the West Papuan people. For more than 30 years they have been subjected to an occupation by Indonesia which has stolen their land, attempted to destroy their culture and killed up to 200,000 (including five members of OPM leader Kelly Kwalik's family in October, 1994).

The Guardian report (Hostages weep for their friend, Irian Jaya, then Dutch New Guinea, was forcibly expelled the Dutch in 1963. They have since then followed the Dutch by imposing a military-colonial regime on this distant province, using it as a backblock from which to crudely extract cheap raw materials, not least timber. Irian Jaya's native Papuans have no non-Papuan language with which to communicate

with the world, while the Dutch, far from sympathetic, prefer to forget their own blood-and-money rule. The Papuans have no say in the enterprises established to exploit their homeland — they profit nothing from the minerals or the hardwoods sold to the West, the timber which heeds the rainforest on which their lives depend. What were the British hostages doing in Irian Jaya in the first place, and what was their research designed to facilitate? The Papuans, in the murder of the two Indonesian/Javanese, did not act in any dark, whimsical brutality. Oppressed and isolated, they are perfectly sensitive to the political and economic horror being practised upon them, and what they did was a desperate but a wholly political act. Leo Schultz, 2 The Woodlands, Aberdeen Park, London N5 2BE.

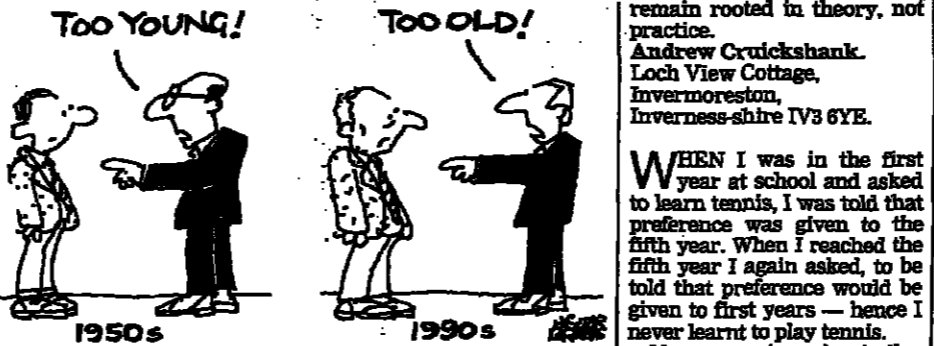
remain rooted in theory, not practice. Andrew Cruickshank, Loch View Cottage, Invermoriston, Inverness-shire IV3 6YE.

Age of enlightenment and unemployment for the older generation

SUZANNE Moore's article (Talk'n' out my generation, May 16) is based on misconceptions. The majority of people do not work until 60 and 65 and then "drop dead" 10 years later. The dominant trend in Britain and Western Europe for the past 20 years has been early exit from the labour market. The world she imagines where people retire at the pension ages is open to only a privileged minority, with the choice to continue working. The majority, who have not built up sufficient resources to finance early retirement, have no choice but to keep looking for work in a hostile labour market. People are living longer and, with health and activity closely linked, why should people be forced to leave work because of age discrimination?

Ironically Suzanne's piece comes in the same week as several major UK companies have recognised the error of their policy of encouraging older workers to leave employment because it meant the loss of scarce skills and maturity. In all EU countries, we are beginning to see change of attitude by some employers, partly in response to the shortages of young people entering the labour market and partly in recognition of the advantages of employing older workers. Surveys conducted for the European Year of Older People show that both older and younger people do not want people in their 50s to make way for younger people. Both generations want fair access to employment. East Walker, Professor of Social Policy, Department of Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2UH.

IN asking "what would it take for people to look forward to retiring at 50 instead of 60", Suzanne Moore conveniently plays down an important element in her question by inserting "besides money" in brackets. Indeed, this is the



only acknowledgement in the article that such people have to find the means to live. I believe there already exist a significant number of people, young as well as old, for whom work is not the "defining factor" of their lives, and who would be content to exclude themselves from the competitive job market and live modestly, but not in penury. However, until society and the main political parties realise that they should be regarded not as heretics against the Protestant work ethic, but as doing society a favour, and that a meaningful, generous welfare state is not a drain on resources but of benefit to all, the sensible views she expresses will

Men that vanished from the front pages

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

TRAVELLING south from Birmingham last Thursday I met an old friend from the AEU. Perhaps he was from the AEU and EU. For since I last thought about these things, engineers have amalgamated with electricians and initials have no doubt changed as well. And not only initials. As we talked about developments in the engineering union — the move from the historic headquarters in Peckham and the consultant's report on improving efficiency — a shameful truth suddenly occurred to me, though not, I hope, to my companion. I did not know the names of the new president and general secretary of Britain's premier craft union.

Part of the reason for that deplorable state of affairs was personal. It is a long time since I collected block votes in support of policy improvements and national executive endorsements for my candidacy in Labour Party elections. In those days I knew

the names, the addresses and the telephone numbers. I was usually too embarrassed to write or to ring, but the possession of all the essential information made me feel that I was campaigning like a properly extrovert politician. But remember in mitigation of my ignorance, that 10 years ago, no one could open a newspaper without reading about the life and work of every British trade union leader. And back in the 1970s everything they did was front page news. If the unions are still a force to be reckoned with, they are now using their powers incognito.

On the night of my Euston shame, I happened to pass Lord (Hughie) Scamlon in the road outside the House of Commons and, as always, we exchanged the cheery greetings of two men who have shared the same silt trench. Shared is the right word. Hughie and I met with a terrible regularity during the years of the Callaghan government. Usually we faced each other across a table in Congress House or the Treasury. But we were on the same side. Less than 10 years before, we in the Wilson government had believed that

Apply the breaks or change gear over the future of transport?

YOUR leader (May 17), I notes that there is nothing left in Labour's latest transport document that would "scare the chickens". This may be a strength of sorts, but not some of the following facts scare chickens, particularly those crossing the roads. Road traffic is forecast to double in 25 years; at least 10,000 people annually die prematurely due to exhaust emissions; the cost of congestion has reached £16 billion per year; respiratory illnesses such as asthma are dramatically on the increase. Labour are making valid points about the need to "persuade people to use [cars] differently". They must now see that it is time politicians saw the problems differently too. A sustainable transport policy must involve setting targets for traffic reduction. The Road Traffic Reduction Bill sets targets; Labour's failure to back it means I find it hard to take their policies seriously. Sarah Hill, 80 Onslow Gardens, London N10 3JX.

FEW people would recognise Roger Harrabin's description of "political parties favouring over drivers" (Guardian Society, May 15). What most politicians should understand, and Roger Harrabin does not, is that giving Britain's motorists a fair deal and improving public transport are not mutually exclusive aims. Many of those Harrabin describes as being "excluded from the motoring classes" are catered for by family or friends who have cars. The number of these "escort trips" has doubled since the 1970s as car ownership has grown. For those without access to cars, it is clear that public transport needs to be improved. But this will not be achieved by penalising car drivers or levelling down the majority to the condition of the car-less minority. The growth in car travel has changed society, and for the vast majority it has provided independence and access to new opportunities beyond the dreams of earlier generations. Which serious political party would want to reverse such progress? Edmund King, RAC Motoring Services, 14 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5RL.

A Country Diary

BURGH CASTLE, NORFOLK. *Corionnum*, to give this fort its Roman title, must be the most spectacular but least visited site in Norfolk. Built about 100AD, much of the original outer walls still stand. These massive fortifications measure 188 by 116 metres, and in parts are over four metres high, making this one of the best preserved Roman shore forts. Yet, strangely, one seldom has to share *Corionnum* with many visitors. It also seems symptomatic of its history of neglect that until recently it was a place for car boot sales, pony trials and horse fairs. Only last year were the fort and its environs bought for the nation by a group including English Heritage, the Broads Authority and the Countryside Commission. Fortunately, its new owners, the Norfolk Archaeological Trust, apart from reinstating hedgerows and erecting some discreet interpretive panels, wish to retain its powerful but understated atmosphere. Nothing will be done

to interrupt its northern panorama over Halvergate Marsh. It is this commanding position which betrays something of *Corionnum's* original function. Throughout the second century, Roman England was harassed by pirates from Germany and Denmark. In order to ward off the raiders, the Count of the Saxons, one of three principal Roman officers in Britain, erected a series of forts around England's east coast. *Corionnum*, with its sister fort at Caister just north of Yarmouth, was intended to stop incursions up the River Yare and into the economically important heartland of East Anglia. However, one force the Romans couldn't halt was the sea. During their British heyday the area visible to the north of Burgh Castle was one vast estuary, Yarmouth itself under water, while Caister Port, now at the easternmost extremity of Norfolk's "bulge", was situated on an island. MARK COCKER

Handwritten note: 20/5/96

Hatiya Diary

John Vidal

THE SIRENS wail and two mothers weep as they cradle children's heads in their laps. Some cling to trees and others flounder in a lake. Half a dozen featherweight houses have been flattened and hundreds of people have run to a concrete cyclone shelter at the edge of the village. Two stretcher bearers slip and stumble with their load; they lay a child's body on a drier and turn exhausted, then go back for more.

The hurricane-force cyclone that formed two days ago in the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal moved northwards at 20 mph. It whipped up the sea and the 20 foot tidal surge easily overcame the embankments designed merely to keep saline waters off paddy fields. Char-bata village in Sudharam district four miles from the coast was drowned to coasts.

But this is fiction, an elaborate piece of theatre involving the whole village and directed by Red Crescent volunteers to press home the dangers of life in one of the world's most vulnerable places. Everyone knows it may have been a death rehearsal; sooner or later, the big cyclone is inevitable, say the scientists. In 1970, 500,000 people died. In 1991 more than 130,000.

Sokina Khatun only just escaped in 1991. She lives in the south east of Hatiya island, right in the mouth of the Ganges. She lost her first husband to the 1970 cyclone. She recalls 1991: "It was the worst I have ever known. I ran outside and saved myself by clinging to a tree." Her second husband and four of her children died.

Severe cyclonic storms are becoming more common, says Abdul Choudhury, head of the Bangladesh Space Research Centre, which tracks them as they build up at sea. Last week one headed for Hatiya, but even as the warnings went out and people prepared to evacuate, it veered east, passing relatively harmlessly over the Chittagong Hill tracts.

It's not just the coastline that is vulnerable. Last week a tornado came from nowhere to flatten 90 inland villages near Tangail, north of Dhaka; 450 people are reported dead, 30,000 are homeless and the 54 political parties preparing for elections next month have called as one for the caretaker government to send relief. But the Tangail tornado has rated only a few lines in the western press. Bangladesh is used to the world paying scant attention: last year it was barely reported that hundreds of thousands of homes were destroyed by huge floods in the north west.

OTHER disasters are man-made. Massive population growth — 100 million people now in a land the size of the British Isles, and expected to double within two generations — has concentrated people into the most vulnerable areas. India is blamed for disturbing water supplies and lowering the water table by building the Farrakka barrage just over the border; salinity is increasing throughout the coastal plain as less fresh water is flushed through Bangladesh. The crops do not grow. Life is harder.

Back on Hatiya Island, Murir Siddin blames deforestation in the Himalayas for a very bad Tuesday. He has dismantled his house and every piece of wood, every nail and screw, is being loaded on a truck. The north of the island is being lost to erosion and the sea, advancing more than a metre a day. It is just a week or two from his door. Six thousand people a year have to move on Hatiya. They take with them their foundations, the palm trees, even the roads, which they dig up to re-use the lumber.

The island is roughly in balance, gaining land as fast as it is losing it; millions of tons of sediments are deposited each year. Every where on the coastal belt land is breaking the surface and is claimed as soon as it appears. "Nothing is permanent here," says Fani Bhuvan Das, a teacher. Hatiya has lost 80 square miles to the sea in the last 20 years and Fani has lost several acres and a house. "The land grows like rice," he says, pointing to a sand bar on the horizon. "One day my children's children may live there. Or it may be taken back by the waves." A wedding party processions along the newly formed embankment. "Disaster only plays one part," he says.

WHERE THE HELL ARE BRONN AND HANDELSON?

As the figure of £50,000 seems to have become firmly entrenched, it is worth considering an income of £50,000 is neither uncommon nor does it constitute great wealth. Many people in middle management and the public services (some headteachers, hospital administrators) earn £50,000 or more and most of them are heavily committed financially, with large mortgages, children to bring

How the President was brought to book

Commentary

Mark Lawson

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton has been responsible, during three years in office, for a remarkable amount of fiction.

This is not meant — as some commentators would intend it — as a reference to his accounts of his involvement in the Whitewater scandal. I mean it literally. The short Clinton administration has already inspired an improbable number of novels and movies. Everybody knows about Primary Colors, that almost word-for-word account of a 1992 primary campaign of a Southern governor and his hard-faced wife. But while Primary Colors was at number one in the American best-seller lists, another extraordinary piece of political fiction was in second place. Absolute Power by David Baldacci — published by Simon & Schuster in Britain on June 10 — deserves to make its author quite as famous as Primary Colors made "Anonymous." Absolute Power has a brilliantly compelling premise: if the President of the United States had been involved in

murder, could he get away with it? Baldacci's fictional commander-in-chief is Alan Richmond, a Democrat in his mid-40s. He has a liking, which the Secret Service indulges and protects, for rough sex with the wives of his friends in commandeered country houses. During one such venture, the drunken Richmond becomes so violent with his date that she tries to stab him with a paperknife. The woman is killed and the resulting struggle and the novel is the story of the White House's attempt to cover up the murder.

In one of the key passages of the book, an inadvertent witness to the killing reflects on the meaning of what he has seen: "The President of the United States was a drunk, an adulterer and a woman beater. He smiled to the press, kissed babies and flirted with enchanted old women, held important meetings, flew around the world as his country's leader, and he was a fucking asshole who screwed married women, then beat them up and got them killed." Absolute Power is a brilliant thriller but it is also a highly significant cultural product. American readers, whatever their politics or their attitude towards the current incumbent of the White House — will not be able to avoid, in their minds, superimposing the features of Bill Clinton over those of Alan Richmond. The novel is

as much a spin-off from his administration as is Primary Colors. The paragraph quoted above could not and would not have been written before the 1992 election. It could never have arisen from the administrations of Bush or Reagan; not even, in those specifics, from the Nixon White House. It is a book written by, and for, voters believing their leader capable of no order, any deputy. A third novel of the current American literary season — The Campaign, co-written by Marilyn Quayle, wife of the American spelling champion of 1992 — also features a Democratic president implicated in murder.

Of course, Clinton is not the first political leader to be brought to book. John F. Kennedy has inspired more fictions than any other president: among them, Richard Condon's Winter Kills, Mario Puzo's The Fourth K, and the Warren Beatty movie The Parallax View. Thriller fiction of the sixties and seventies is packed with glamorous, but doomed young Democrats. Richard Nixon also provided much fodder for novels, including Robert Coover's The Public Burning and Philip Roth's Our Gang. Margaret Thatcher's unique gender among prime ministers makes her difficult to hide in fiction — the BBC legal department actively warns dramatists against creating fictional female PMs unless they

be say, black, and in the year 2070 — but she has cropped up as more or less herself in books including Jan McEwan's The Child in Time and Philip Hensher's recent Kitchen Venom.

Yet in order to inspire so many writers, Kennedy, Nixon and Thatcher had to become, respectively, a martyr, a monster and a myth. The bizarre thing about Clinton is that he has got the word processors purring merely by serving a largely unremarkable term. Yet, as well as the three novels described above, his presence lies behind the Kevin Kline movie Dave — in which a president has a stroke while having adulterous sex — and last year's Michael Douglas film, The American President, a (for once) highly sympathetic account of the

Much of the fiction clearly draws on the body of alleged fact

problems of a middle-aged Democratic president. In these multiple Clinton fictions, these narrative shadows, we understand something of the complex position of the 42nd president occupies in American life. He is the first occupant of the Oval Office to have been openly accused — by right-wing radio hosts and journalists — of complicity in murder, which some allege to have been the true fate of Vincent Foster, the Clinton aide who committed suicide two years ago. (Suicides provoked by presidential conduct are a feature of both Primary Colors and Absolute Power.) No previous president came to power so dogged by accusations of sexual and financial misconduct. Much of the fic-

tion clearly draws on the body of alleged fact: in the weeks when Primary Colors and Absolute Power held the top two spots in the New York Times bestseller list, the biggest-selling non-fiction title was Blood Sport, a journalist's account of the Whitewater affair.

Yet the attraction of Clinton to novelists and film-makers lies not in the aura of sleaze, which, fairly or not, pursues him, but in the attachment of these scandals to a character of obvious charisma, intelligence and charm. Unlike, for example, Nixon, who was Richard III right through, he combines Henry V's public skills with Richard III's reputation. It is the juxtaposition between these qualities which makes him one of the most intriguing figures ever to occupy the White House and which leads so many makers of fiction to plot against him.

Absolute Power ends with a solemn Author's Note, warning readers not to see a central element in this invented narrative as reality. "This novel is obviously a work of fiction... It in no way implies that members of the United States Secret Service would do any of the fictional acts attributed to the fictional agents in the novel." That the author sees no need to suggest that no real occupant of the Oval Office is likely to be an accessory to murder while indulging in drunken and adulterous sodomasochistic sex makes a rather startling point. The ruined expectations of American electorates and the culture of the Clinton years. That the subject of these massive popular fictional character assassinations is highly likely to be elected to a second term during which the movies of Primary Colors and Absolute Power are slated to appear — offers a significant glimpse on a president who seems to be viewed by his people as simultaneously repulsive and compelling.

Official bluster and a load of ballistics



Paul Foot

TO BE denounced as "preposterous" by Mr David Maclean, Minister of State at the Home Office, is the highest possible accolade for any investigative journalist. Channel Four's Dispatches last month about the shooting of WPC Yvonne Fletcher outside the Libyan embassy has done even better. In a recent Commons speech about the programme, Mr Maclean used the word seven times, with an "obscene", an "offensive" and a "feverish" thrown in.

Tam Dalyell, who initiated the debate, asked the minister eight questions. The 1984 shooting of WPC Fletcher, he reminded the House, was one of the most notorious crimes of recent times, and had profound political consequences. The official story was that she had been shot in the hall of bullets fired from the first floor of the embassy at demonstrators in the square outside. The programme produced expert evidence to suggest that the bullet which killed her came from a different building, higher up. This was the original conclusion of the Home Office pathologist, Dr Ian West, when he first examined the policewoman's body. He wrote: "The track of the bullet would indicate that she was shot from the upper floors of an adjacent building." At the inquest, however, Dr West concluded: "Her injuries were entirely consistent with a shot fired from the first floor of the embassy."

Tam Dalyell pointed out that two top forensic consultants and an experienced ballistics expert now supported West's original view. Dalyell also asked about the programme's suggestions that the shooting of Yvonne Fletcher was the work of British or American intelligence officers, who knew in advance of the proposed attack on the demonstration, and who organised another shooting to stoke up hostility to the Libyan regime.

Dalyell's questions were supported to the hilt by Teddy Taylor, Tory MP for Southend East, who described Mr Maclean as "one of the straight and honourable ministers". Maclean's reply to these courteous questions was to denounce the programme as "preposterous trash" and then again as "preposterous" and then, by way of a change, over and over again as "preposterous".

He refused to answer anything about the security services, and dealt with Dr West's "extraordinary change of view" by the time-honoured technique of ignoring it. Interrupted by an astonished Tam Dalyell, Maclean explained that

he was not attacking the experts — only the programme, which was almost exclusively based on the evidence of the experts.

Long years at the Home Office dealing with criminal justice had taught Maclean that a useful tactic for ministers when attacking campaigners against injustice is to denounce them for causing distress to the victims' families. "I do not know," he told the Commons, "what hurt they [the programme makers] have caused the parents of WPC Fletcher".

Perhaps he did not know, either, that the dead woman's parents were listening to him in the gallery, hoping for some answers to the questions which had been worrying them for 12 years. Mrs Queenie Fletcher told me she had no objection at all to the programme. The best example of this on the whole we've heard from lots of other people — and that was not at all impressed with Maclean's buffoonery and bluster. "We just felt he hadn't got anywhere with his local Tory party. That brought out into the open what we've heard from lots of other people" — and that was not at all impressed with Maclean's buffoonery and bluster. "We just felt he hadn't got anywhere with his local Tory party. That brought out into the open what we've heard from lots of other people" — and that was not at all impressed with Maclean's buffoonery and bluster.

MACLEAN'S speech was typical of the Thatcherite rump in the Commons, who have nothing left to offer but their arrogance. The best example of this on the back benches is the undistinguished journalist and Thatcher knight, Sir George Gardiner. I feel obliged to correct a report in Saturday's Guardian about his problems with his local Tory party. The report disclosed that the Regatta Tories' executive voted 15-14 to allow other candidates to stand against Sir George "despite his threatening to resign immediately if he lost that vote". The word "despite" should plainly have read "as a result of".

THE university league tables for 1996 put Chester College of Higher Education top of the "first class honours" list — a staggering 38 per cent of all degrees there were first class (compared to 15.1 per cent at Oxford). This was especially remarkable since Chester College does not even feature on the league table of "entry requirement average points", based on the number and grades of A levels required for entry.

A closer study of the two lists reveals a host of similar contradictions. How to explain them? My friend Colin Wylliamson, who teaches philosophy at the University College of Swansea, and was in London at the weekend for a meeting of Cafas (Campaign for Academic Freedom and Standards), helped me out with a few tips. "Rug cuts in government funding for universities and the increased competition between them mean that more and more students are being taught by fewer and fewer teachers. Yet in general the degree results get better and better. The pressure is on all the time to give the appearance of higher academic standards when those standards in fact are dropping."

James Hanson argues that Tony Blair's poll lead could be wiped out if the Tories concentrated on attacking Labour where it is most vulnerable — on taxation policy

Making tracks on tax

CAN THE Conservatives win the next election? Even after the recent council elections, the answer is that they probably can. Provided that from now until the election they concentrate on their true opponent: "New Labour and its policies.

That this impression is not wishful thinking on my part is underlined by the latest NOP poll, which concentrated on voters' attitudes to tax, and by some recent comments on the poll by Ken Livingstone (Coming clean on taxation will bring dividends, Guardian, May 6).

According to the poll only 13 per cent of voters believe the official Labour line that taxes will be cut by a Labour government as the economy improves. And only 32 per cent believe that tax rises under Labour will be confined to the "welfare off." Some 41 per cent believe positively that Labour will put up every one's taxes, a figure Livingstone says should set alarm bells ringing in Labour's Media Centre.

No doubt this is because 41 per cent of the poll would be just about enough to return a Conservative government (in 1992, John Major won with 42.7 per cent of the popular vote). While few of that 41 per cent might actually want to be clobbered by Labour, as Livingstone puts it, the overall trends revealed in the NOP poll confirm Labour's own internal research, which shows that substantial numbers of voters still regard themselves as Tories even though they may not plan to vote Conservative.

If this section of the population were actually to vote Conservative, as well they might in a general election, Labour's internal polls report that its lead would be reduced to 2 or 3 per cent. All this, of course, before anyone knows what the economy will do with the economy. When that becomes clearer, Labour's lead could vanish completely. Certainly it could, and should, if Livingstone's own thinking on the matter in any way reflects the policy yet to be revealed.

In the first place, Livingstone enthusiastically endorses the widely held belief that Labour would put up taxes on those earning more than £50,000 a year. This, he says, would be morally and politically right, though he admits that the £23 billion it would raise is only small change in the context of government expenditure. (The Prudential Sector Borrowing Requirement is currently running at £32.2 billion.)

As the figure of £50,000 seems to have become firmly entrenched, it is worth considering an income of £50,000 is neither uncommon nor does it constitute great wealth. Many people in middle management and the public services (some headteachers, hospital administrators) earn £50,000 or more and most of them are heavily committed financially, with large mortgages, children to bring



up, elderly parents to care for and so on. Those earning around £50,000 are not necessarily rich. More to the point, people at that level, or the many more aspiring to reach it, are precisely those who New Labour needs to convince, if it is to have any claim to general professional or managerial opinion. That's unlikely to happen. So why is New Labour so keen to hit them and to punish their perfectly legitimate aspirations? Especially when the return would be so small.

Livingstone's suggestion that New Labour ought to increase taxes at £50,000, "if only to reassure the others," has ominous overtones. It is all too reminiscent of old Labour's desire to ponder to its traditional resentment of success and hard work, whether or not the effects of such pandering are helpful either financially or electorally.

In any case, as Livingstone admits quite candidly, a New Labour government would need to raise £30 billion more in order to "rebuild our welfare state and drag British investment up to European levels". £30 billion! Is he serious?

So where will the other £27 billion come from? Not, he says, from income tax (after all, New Labour does not want to dishearten its political supporters), but from company dividends. Ah ha! Now we are getting very close to old Labour. Hit the unearned income of the "fat cats" and let a thousand flowers bloom in the public services.

However, things are not so simple as that, as a moment's reflection will show. Even if dividends could be transferred to government by what Livingstone chillingly calls "imaginative" use of company and tax law, rather than simply disappearing as inter-

the effects of what had become a global market and the collapse, when it came, was that much the worse. Add shipbuilding, steel and many others.

Livingstone is surely representative of real Labour's grass-roots thinking... even after the fall of communism and the ignominious failure of socialist "planning" here, it seems that the lesson that centrally planned economies are museum economies has yet to be learned by Ken and me.

Nor is it true that high dividends mean low investment, as Livingstone argues in attempting to justify more tax on dividends. International studies confirm there is no straightforward connection between the two. More businessmen and shareholders are only too happy to invest when they see good opportunities, but they evaluate the opportunities in the light of market forces, not because of sentimentalism or political dogma.

Finally, poor Ken's outmoded thought patterns are revealed only too clearly in the assumption that profits and dividends are a matter of the bosses taking the money and running, as he so elegantly put it.

Everyone has a stake in the successful production of profits and dividends. Pensions and savings depend on it. Every pensioner — and old persons living in nursing home care — totally depends on the success and security of the pension funds.

MAKING £20 billion out of annual dividends would drive a coach and horses through the actuarial calculations of the pensions on which everyone will depend sooner or later — Ken included, I assume. Rhetoric about bosses and the City is symptomatic of financial illiteracy, hiding as it does the extent to which everyone depends on the success of the City; a success manifested in rates of profit and dividend. It is Messrs Blair, Brown and Cook follow Livingstone's suggestions, the likely run on sterling and the withdrawal of international capital from the City will lead to a financial crisis in particular for pensioners. Any compulsory reinvestment, even if successful, would take at least five years to bear fruit.

Of course, we don't know whether Ken Livingstone is a good guide to what New Labour's economic policy will be. But if, as is not completely unlikely, it does involve higher taxes at least for the better paid and compulsory reinvestment of profits into state-selected investments, the Conservatives will be presented with a great electoral opportunity. For the sake of the financial health of the country, we must hope the Tory party lifts itself from its current internal wrangling and firmly grasps the initiative.

Lord Hanson is the chairman of Hanson plc

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Rob Hall

Fina summit for a high achiever

ON THE morning of Friday, May 10, Rob Hall, the New Zealand mountaineer, guide and director of the firm Adventure Consultants, reached the summit of Everest with two other guides and with three clients who had paid a reported \$30,000 each to join a commercial expedition with that objective. Hall sent a radio message from the summit to record the mountain's "conquest", and by the technological wizardry of the new days commonplace in this context, it was relayed by fax from Everest base camp to the company's Christchurch headquarters. The group, in rapidly deteriorating weather, then turned to the west.

Hall, for whom this was the fifth time he had trodden the summit, was the senior guide and as such took responsibility for the weakest member — the 44-year-old American Douglas Hansen. The two of them fell behind the other climbers and, in the face of dreadful conditions of wind and snow, were forced to dig a snow-hole for refuge between the Hillary Step and Everest's South Summit at a reported altitude of 8,700 metres. They

had little food with them, and were without sleeping bags or fuel to melt snow. Without liquid, physical decline at this height is rapid and inevitable. By Friday night, the American was dead.

For the next two days, Hall was in radio contact with base camp and with his wife Jan Arnold — who is seven months pregnant with her first child — in New Zealand. He reported that he was severely frostbitten and without the strength to cross the South Summit and descend to the South Col and beyond. It is assumed that he died some time on Sunday, May 12. He was 35.

Rob Hall was a phenomenon in the close-knit, hard-bitten world of New Zealand's mountaineers. Born in Christchurch, where he was educated at Xavier College, he sprang into prominence, as an 18-year-old, with a winter ascent of Mount Cook. In 1980 he became the youngest New Zealander to climb a major Himalayan peak (Ama Dablam — 8,812m), and capped both of these with a first winter ascent of the Caroline Face of Mount Cook in 1981. The time Hall took to do this — eight-and-a-half hours,

compared with 20 hours for the fastest summer ascent — caused an uproar among the country's climbers and established for him a reputation, in this conservative nation, where mountaineering is almost a religion, as a young tearaway.

Thereafter, his career built impressively. In the next decade he accumulated ascents of seven of the world's 8,000-metre peaks: Everest, Lhotse, Makalu, K2, Annapurna, Cho Oyu and Kizapangma were swiftly and efficiently added to his collection and he seemed well on course to become the first New Zealander to climb all 14 of the 8,000-metre mountains.

He spent time as a survival instructor at the Scott Base in Antarctica, and made the first descent by paraglider from Mount Cook. His serendipity was not without its setbacks. In October 1993, his closest friend and co-director of Adventure Consultants, Gary Ball, died of pulmonary oedema as the two were climbing together on Dhaulagiri (8,167m).

With Ball and Peter Hillary — Sir Edmund's son — he had three years previously accomplished the so-called "seven



'Anyone who, regardless of mountain experience, had sufficient money and ambition could scarcely have found a safer or more prudent guide for Everest'

summits" — the highest points on each of the world's major land masses — in the remarkable time of seven months. This logistical nightmare was the sort of project to which Hall's character was admirably suited.

Those who worked with him record their awe and admiration of his capacity for unflappable organisation. Nick Banks, a mountain guide both in Britain and New Zealand and a close friend of Hall's,

recalls him thus: "As a mountaineer, he was very fit, effective and technically competent. As a businessman, he was superb and made a success of everything, from his guide's assessment and early design and manufacture of rucksacks through to Adventure Consultants, which set the standards by which every other commercial expedition outfit was judged."

"He was a marvellous boss to work for, and won lots of clients from other companies just by their seeing the way he operated and opting to go with him next time. He was completely cool, genial and unphased — the sort of guy who, if all the expedition baggage had fallen in the river, would just have shrugged his shoulders and sent for some more. It doesn't at all surprise me that his death came about through looking after a client — that was the way he was."

This great beauty of a man, with the intense eyes, the frontier eyebrows and bushy beard — this affable, sociable hedonist when away from the austerity of his mountains — grew into something of a folk-hero in his native country. He was idolised by the establishment and the local media, and used the latter to great advantage. His easy eloquence and radical, firmly-held opinions stood him in good stead in his dealings here, and made him a household word.

Not every sector of New Zealand society held him in such high regard. His rebuttal of the claims of Lydia Brady — reasonable claims on the evidence, which others, the great Australian mountaineer, Greg Child among them, have

strongly supported — incurred the wrath of New Zealand's feminists and drew accusations of sexual chauvinism against him from that quarter. Balancing that charge are the activities he undertook in company with his wife, Jan Arnold, a doctor whom he met while she was studying high altitude medicine at Pheruche in Nepal. With her, he climbed Everest, Cho Oyu (twice), Mount Vinson in Antarctica, Denali in Alaska and Carstens Pyramid in Papua New Guinea.

His business project, guiding clients to the summits of the highest peak, he pursued with meticulous attention to detail and a ready defence of the summit should be open to all who wished to climb them (and who could, of course, also muster the necessary cash). The notion that this enterprise is perhaps unwise crops up recurrently as a justification for the commercial involvement which have been heard in recent days.

Anyone who, regardless of mountain experience, had sufficient money and ambition could scarcely have found a safer or more prudent guide for Everest. Nonetheless, ambition, money and success, are often the aptest breeding grounds for that hubris which time and again proves deadly among mountaineers, where an amount of technology, organisation or experience can guarantee survival.

The bodies of Rob Hall and Douglas Hansen are frozen now into a tiny pocket in the snow. In due course, the white skin of the mountain will shiver and slough them off. And Everest will care not one jot: not for Rob's Mountaineering of the Year award of 1987, nor his Himalayan Rescue Association Award of 1989, nor for his New Zealand Medal of 1990, nor for his unborn child, nor for his feelings of his wife, to whom — as Sherpa rescuers battled bravely and unavailingly up from the South Col to within 300 metres of his cold grave — a westerner of terrifying ferocity on Saturday — technology at least gave the dearly-held consolation of a goodbye.

Jim Peart

Robert Edwin Hall, mountaineer, businessman, born January 14, 1961; died May 12, 1996

Letter

WR Jackson writes: Paul Sood (obituary May 16) was not just a political powerhouse behind Leicester's Asian business sector, he was also one of those unsung heroes who make a noticeable difference to those with whom he came into contact. No problem was too small; even if he could not provide a remedy one always felt that Clr Sood had done his utmost.

I recall seeing him only a few weeks before his untimely death, when, over a pint, we discussed India's claim of sovereignty over Kashmir. We had never agreed on this issue but it mattered not for Paul, a democrat who would never hold a grudge simply because of a difference of opinion. Indeed, he loved the cut and thrust of verbal polemics, whether in the council chamber or over a vegetable in a local restaurant after a 12-hour day, during which he may have seen a dozen people seeking his help on anything from rent arrears to troublesome teenagers.

Paul often quoted Mahatma Gandhi to me. He did not believe in an eye for an eye; that way, he said, we would all end up blind. Right to the end he never lost sight of man's need to love, not judge, his neighbour.

Birthdays

Tim Albery, opera and theatre director, 44; Sir David Berriman, chairman, Association of Lloyds Members, 68; Lynda Birke, biologist, 48; Prof Ian Cameron, provost, University of Wales College of Medicine, 60; Sir Harry Campion, statistician, founding director, Central Statistical Office, 91; The Rev Prof Sir Owen Chadwick OM, ecclesiastical historian, 80; Cher, singer and actress, 38; Peter Copley, actor, 81; Greg Dyke, ITV mogul, chairman and chief executive, Pearson Television, 48; Mary Flanagan, novelist and critic, 53; Keith Fletcher, cricketer, 52; Nigel Griffiths, Labour MP, 41; John Hegarty, advertising director, 32; Lord (Clive) Hollick, chief executive, M&L, 51; Deryck Murray, manager, West Indies cricket team, 53; Michèle Roberts, novelist and poet, 47; Peter Shore MP, former Labour minister, 82; Earl Spencer, 32; James Stewart, actor, 88; Sir Iain Vallance, chairman, British Television, 58.

Johnny Watson

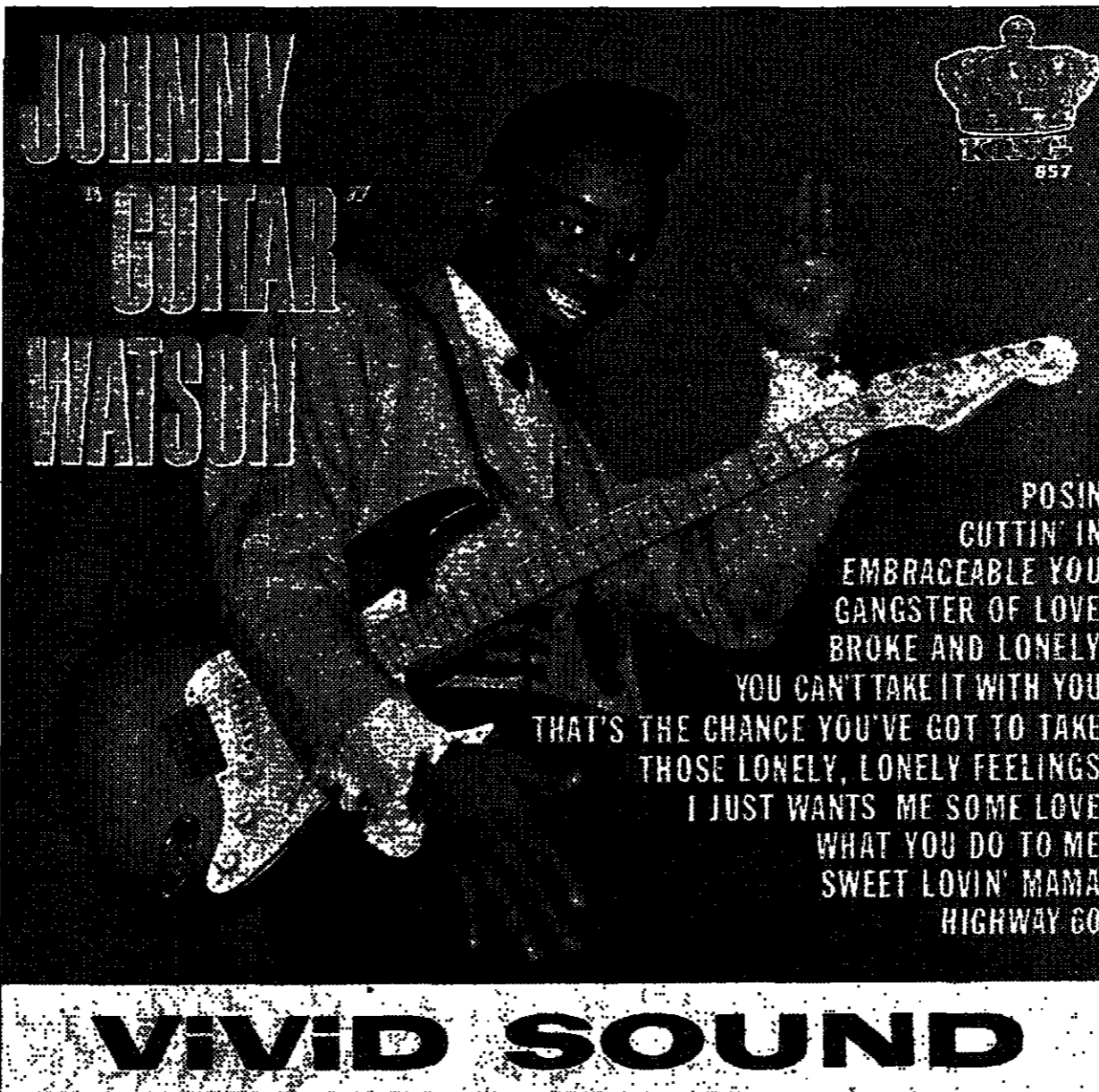
Firing from the hip

JOHNNY "Guitar" Watson was too full of life to dwell on thoughts of mortality, but had he orchestrated his own exit this was the one he would have chosen: on the up again, touring the world after a recent hit album and re-issues of his substantial back catalogue, wig hat on his head, gold-tooth grin flashing in the spotlight, his trusty axe fixed to his hip, a natural-born "dude" if ever there was one. Still playing the bad-ass young charmer at 61, and getting away with it because he was not acting, Watson died of a heart attack after collapsing on stage for an eye.

Watson was the slinkiest survivor from the bygone years of rhythm 'n' blues and yet, apart from a big hit run in the second half of the 1970s, he never properly realised his full potential. He was universally liked and more highly rated among other musicians than he ever was with the public. Watson is said to have influenced all manner of men, from Jimi Hendrix to Frank Zappa, with whom he recorded in the 1970s and 1980s; perhaps more in approach than delivery.

A decade before Hendrix and Zappa cut their claims to fame, Watson was striking out on the West Coast with a snake-like extension lead, a crazy guitar, and boisterous attitude. But he was always one for the clean, simple cut-and-thrust of an early electric guitar.

Born in Houston, Texas, he was taught piano by his father before becoming enthralled by the freshly strident electric guitarists of that era — at root, T-Bone Walker, but in particular Texas's own Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown. In 1959, when his parents separated, he went to Los Angeles and began sitting in with the local jazz bands, first recording as a piano-playing blues singer with Chuck Higgins's Mello-tones, then in his own right as Johnny Watson. During the same period he formed his own little group for flashy on-stage displays of guitar pyro-



Natural-born dude... Johnny 'Guitar' Watson posin' on the cover of his 1962 album, Vivid Sound

technics that have been likened to an early sketch of Jimi Hendrix, without the feedback. In February 1964, he first recorded a sound-bite of his crazy axe, *Space Guitar*. In retrospect, he would seem tailor-made to become a formidable first-generation rock 'n' roll star, but although his record company was sharp enough to dub him Johnny "Guitar" Watson and encourage that side of his talent, there was no great attempt to market him for the adolescent audience. He had a hit with the company, *Those Lonely Lonely Nights*, but remained fundamentally a local R&B phenomenon, label-hopping throughout the rest of the 1960s and early 1970s. He did, however,

record his original versions of *Gangster Of Love* (1958) and *Looking Back* (1961). A 1961-63 tenure with King Records gave him a second R&B top 10 hit, *Cuttin' In*.

After that he teamed up with his buddy, Larry Williams, and in 1965 they toured England together. On their return to the States, Watson and Williams secured a fruitful recording/production deal with Okeh Records that saw them through to the late 1960s, with hits like *Two For The Price Of One*, an up-tempo soul record now regarded as a Northern Soul classic.

The early 1970s were less kind to both men, but Watson was determined to come up with something appropriate

for the times. Between the extremes of pop disco and freaky funk, Watson took the middle ground. But throughout it all, his clean-cut guitar work reminded us where he was coming from.

Then he signed to DJM records, a British-based label for whom he recorded hits such as *I Need It, Ain't That A Blotch*, *A Real Mother For You* and other seductive salutations which caught the mood of the era both for the dance floor and the bedroom.

By the 1980s, Watson was suffering a crisis of confidence because his brand of soul was out of fashion, and in 1980 his old partner Larry Williams was shot under suspicious circumstances. Watson recorded

a couple of striking albums and then laid low in his Los Angeles home, occasionally venturing out for tours of small clubs. Then in the 1990s he was resurrected with his guitar riffs being sampled by rappers Snoopy Doggy Dogg and Ice Cube. He cut an album, *Bow Wow*, last year and was getting bookings worldwide.

Johnny "Guitar" Watson leaves a fruitful legacy of R&B recordings of all shades from four decades. He would be best pleased if you listened and said: "I hear that!"

Cliff White

Johnny "Guitar" Watson, musician, born February 3, 1935; died May 19, 1996

Pierre Debizet

Loyalty beyond the call of duty

LOYALTY was always one of the characteristics of Gaullism. Whenever it seemed necessary, telephone calls would be made, and Gaullists gathered ready to parade, to hold meetings, to organise propaganda. The majority were eminently respectable, but there were others. And it was sometimes said "there are some funny people among the Gaullists". Perhaps there were.

It started in 1947 in the seventh arrondissement of Paris, when De Gaulle called a meeting in the Japy gymnasium. This was one of the first meetings of De Gaulle's newly-formed Rally Of The French people. The Communist Party, accusing De Gaulle of wishing to seize power and to establish a fascist state, wrecked the meeting by invading the platform and displaying realisable violence. So a security force was recruited. It was made up of former boxers, soldiers and bodyguards. They are, said De Gaulle, "capable of amazing stupidities. But you can count on them for 24 hours out of 24."

It was this security force that Pierre Debizet, who had died aged 73, joined, becoming the third in the order of seniority. It was as a hero of the resistance movement, under the name "Debauge", that he was recruited. He had served in the group Libé-Nord, which was based in the ninth arrondissement and which was pre-eminently socialist. But he worked for the information service of Free France — in that way becoming a Gaullist — and received high decorations.

He liked to be known as "le Colonel" or as "gros sourcil" ("heavy eyebrows") or by his resistance name. In this service he made contact with Jacques Foccart, who became the secretary-general of the Gaullist party and who was already active in the French counter-espionage service. While Debizet's strong-arm role declined as De Gaulle ceased to work with his political party in the 1950s, it reappeared after the Suez crisis. Then there was considerable activity urging the return of De Gaulle, and with the revolt

in Algiers in May 1958 there was an atmosphere of conspiracy which caused Foccart to create the Service d'Action, the SAC, with Debizet as its head. He galvanised the Gaullists, although when De Gaulle was elected Debizet was in hospital.

The situation became complicated as De Gaulle's Algerian policy evolved. Debizet was in favour of Algeria remaining French and he disapproved of Algerian independence. It was said that once Algeria was independent he wore a black tie for the rest of his life. But he also disapproved of the Secret Army (the OAS) which sought to kill De Gaulle. The war between the SAC and the OAS became both bitter and scandalous. Debizet left Paris, where he was accused of gangsterism, and went, under a pseudonym, to Africa, where he carried out work for De Gaulle. Much of this pursuit of French interests was highly secret.

In 1969, President Pompidou called on Debizet to clean up the SAC. It had drifted into the role of a parallel police force, spying on the private lives of politicians and civil servants. Under Giscard, Foccart's role became less active in France, but still active in Gabon.

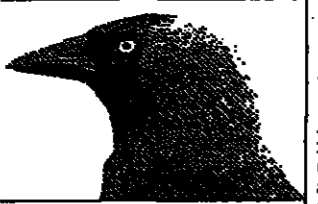
In 1981 what De Gaulle had prophesied came to pass. Due to misunderstanding and confusion, three members of SAC killed a colleague and his family at Auril, in southern France. Debizet was suspected of complicity and arrested. He was cleared of the charge and released, but the SAC was dissolved in 1982.

In 1986 he reappeared, representing a movement which sought to resurrect the values of true Gaullism, and which called on people to demonstrate and to protest against the decline and decadence of French society. The movement was a complete failure.

Douglas Johnson

Pierre Debizet, resistance fighter, special agent and politician, born 1923; died May 16, 1996

Jackdaw



Adam 1968-96

TODAY and every day since Rich's death, small charred stick-figure drawings, some of them small as cocktail napkins and paper plates, along with a motley collection of cigars, vitamin C tablets and motocross patches line the alley outside the Asp club where he was murdered. Go there at sunset and inevitably a crowd will have formed, a mish mash of motocross enthusiasts, struggling painters and actors, small children and older and incoherent fans. They usually mingle for a while, lighting candles and laying flowers around a makeshift

memorial of trash aligned to spell "Adam". It's a group similar in makeup to the dozens that attended Rich's memorial/rally/barbecue on Venice Beach the Saturday after his death.

There, a tape recorded by Allison Hughes, Rich's girlfriend of the last three weeks of his life, was played to the assembled mourners. She urged fans to be strong and quoted one of the text moving tips Rich gave this magazine's readers in 1995. "Just turn up the Superchunk, throw your stuff in a box and move it!"

To show up in person would have been the most difficult of moments for Allison. "I just couldn't face standing up in front of all those people, you know. It's not like I have a lot of back in my wardrobe, so I'm not entirely confident about how I look."

One whom the actor touched so deeply with his life and art was his chauffeur, Ron Russell. Ron points to a single episode that may have signalled what was to come.

"We were going to get some more vitamin C from the 24-hour GNC one night after

working late," Ron relates. "A guy came over to Adam and asked for the time. Adam just lost it. He snapped at him, 'Do I look like a fucking clock? Do I Am I fucking Ben to you?' I was like, whoa, Adam, settle down. I had to hold this guy back from taking a swing at him. I remember Adam just glared, and glared, and glared — and glared. Then he glared for a few more minutes. Of course, by now the guy was long gone, but it was really weird."

... When one who has shone so brightly to so many is snuffed out with terrifying finality, the pain comes in waves that seem to lap at the toes of individuals, even as it crashes onto the beach head of society. No, there will never be another Adam. And although it is daft to call a fertilised egg a person, deserving of rights, we do not know when else in a foetal life we might make this definition: we have no idea, and the only safe and defensible time to "put the cursor" must be at fertilisation. The Tablet outlines the increasingly complicated issue of

abortion due to scientists using tissue from aborted fetuses for research into brain diseases such as multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's. Donors need to be asked permission first; in this case, who is the donor?

Gay times

AS SOME of your readers will know, 83 clergy from the diocese of Southwark wrote to the Provost of our cathedral in the middle of April, appealing to him to reconsider the permission given to the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement to hold its 20th anniversary service in the cathedral. It was with sadness that we heard that, having considered our request, the cathedral chapter have decided not to withdraw their permission, but to maintain their welcome to the LGCM.

We are now writing to state publicly that we are not in sympathy with this service, and we wish to make a strong protest to the cathedral authorities. As we stated in our previous letter, there are several reasons for doing this.

1. Homosexual acts run contrary to the decision of the General Synod in 1987, which the House of Bishops statement, *Issues in Human Sexuality*, also recognises; they are forbidden in holy scripture, are contrary to the gospel and the explicit teaching of St Paul in Romans, chapter 1. However, the LGCM's stated conviction is that "it is entirely compatible with the Christian faith not only to love another person of the same sex but also to express that love fully in a personal sexual relationship" (from LGCM's Statement of Conviction).

2. We believe that this service will cause further division in the church, as it will grieve many ordinary Christians; and we fear for the position of the cathedral as the place where the diocese can unite.

3. We also fear for the reputation of the Church of England in the eyes of the world, in view of the LGCM's history.

We recognise the history of the Church's hypocrisy in this area. We see the need to welcome Christians with homosexual feelings, and to break down the barriers which prevent homosexual men and women from hearing the Gospel. However, we do not think that the permission to hold this service achieves either of these ends. Indeed, it is dangerously counter-productive in celebrating practice that the Bible and the Church call sin.

Rev Hugh Balfour and others expressing their concern in the Church Times that gays and lesbians might contaminate ordinary Christianity.



Might... final irony

So rich...

"I'M NOT dead!" insists former child star Adam Rich. The *Eight Is Enough* veteran, who played cute little Nicholas, became the victim of a death hoax by a small San Franciscoan publication called *Might*.

Adam told the Enquirer, "It started as a joke but it got out of control. Now a lot of people think I really AM dead! I'm upset."

The *May/June* issue of *Might* featured a photo of Adam on the cover with the words "Adam Rich, 1968-1996. Fare thee well, Gentle Friend... His Last Days... The Legacy of Nicholas". The *National Enquirer*, *The National Examiner*, *The Relief of Fans*, *revels that Jackdaw is still alive*.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. E-mail: jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4829; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 111 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.



High taxes or low, bills still have to be paid

Debate
Andrew Dilnot

KENNETH Clarke takes an average of nearly £300 a week from every household in this country. And then he gives it back again. But while the taxes we all pay must broadly be equal to government spending in aggregate, for individual households there can be huge differences between taxes paid and benefits received from government spending.

Back to the future, sixties style



EARLIER this year, at the World Economic Forum in Davos, two American neurologists discussed the huge steps forward in the study of the brain and cures for Alzheimer's disease over the past decade. The idea that progress could not be made was unthinkable. There was a problem: it would be solved.

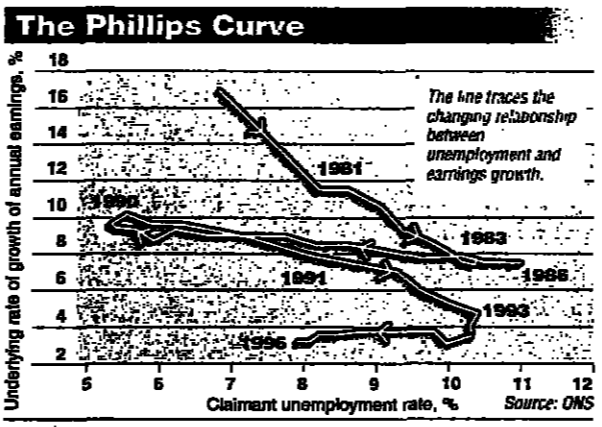
after a tighter monetary policy. The fear is that Britain's traditional problems — the balance of payments and under-investment — will combine to stoke up inflationary pressure, whatever happens in the labour market.

little more. If, as the recent evidence suggests, the corporate sector isn't up to the job, what is to stop the Government increasing corporate taxation and the top rate of personal tax, then using the proceeds to create public sector jobs? We'll take a short break at this point while everybody takes a whiff of smelling salts.

around £22,500 per job, a total of some £16.85 billion. The net cost would be much lower, because the tax take would be higher and benefit pay-outs lower. Messrs Kitson, Michie and Sutherland estimate the net cost at under £6 billion, and perhaps even less because they assume that all the jobs created are reasonably paid and full-time.

of these factors. The first thing to say is that £6 billion is small beer when public spending is running at £300 billion a year. Nor would the sky fall in on the bond market if the state embarked upon such a project, particularly if the money came from higher taxation rather than an expansion of borrowing.

Robinson of the London School of Economics, was illuminating. Mr Robinson, using the graph shown, argued that there is an asymmetry in the Phillips curve — that in the recessions of the early 1980s and early 1990s it required a large increase in unemployment to reduce the level of earnings growth, but in the recovery phases big falls in unemployment were associated with modest or negligible rises in wage inflation.



Sorry, this is where we came in

Worm's eye
Dan Atkinson
SATURDAY afternoon, and the car radio transmits a ring-in discussion. At first, the listener assumes this to be Any Answers on Radio 4, but is soon put right by the concentration-camp physician tones of the presenter, who, it seems, wants those people on the left to say sorry for what they did to our schools.

regrets from the English master who assured us Tanzania was The Future and the geography teacher who raved about Red China. But this apology business could get out of hand. Working to Dr Starkey's 20-year theme, the time may have come to apologise to all trade unionists who took a mauling on television (and in print) during the early years of the Fright Decade.

man was "living in the 1930s" and had failed to move with the times. If he was sharper and younger, he was simply a liar, and his boys were cutting up rough not because of some terror of the boss-class but to shore up the TU man's quasi-protection racket.

is that it would lead to higher inflation, either through a tightening of the labour market leading to a wage-price spiral or via a widening of the trade deficit. As far as the first objection is concerned, another paper at the conference, from Peter

Indicators

- TOMORROW** — UK: M0 (Apr), UK: M4 (Apr, prov), UK: M4 lending, US: FOMC meeting.
- WEDNESDAY** — US: Export price index (Apr), US: Import price index (Apr), GB: Consumer price index (May), US: Retail sales (Apr).
- THURSDAY** — UK: GDP (Q1), UK: Retail sales (Apr).
- US:** Jobless claims, FR: Banque de France Council Meeting, FR: M4 lending, US: FOMC meeting, US: Export price index (Apr), US: Import price index (Apr), GB: Consumer price index (May), US: Retail sales (Apr).

Tourist rates — bank sells

Australia 1.8275	France 7.59	Italy 2.311	Singapore 2.06
Austria 15.80	Germany 2.2475	Malta 0.5390	South Africa 6.40
Belgium 46.10	Greece 369.00	Netherlands 2.5150	Spain 187.50
Canada 2.0225	Hong Kong 11.42	New Zealand 2.1450	Sweden 10.05
Cyprus 0.6950	India 52.45	Norway 9.70	Switzerland 1.8350
Denmark 8.72	Ireland 0.9425	Portugal 232.50	Turkey 111.704
Finland 7.06	Israel 4.90	Saudi Arabia 5.65	USA 1.4800

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Racing Carson's double trouble

Chris Hawkins

IT MAY be overstating it to say that Willie Carson's career has hit crisis point following his seven-day suspension on Saturday evening for failing to ride out Kamari, who was caught and beaten in the last stride by Major Dundee at Lingfield...

True, he rode a double at Newbury on Saturday, but it would undoubtedly have been a treble if he had managed to get a clear run in Nabham, who was beaten a head and a short-head. That sort of thing is an occupational hazard and happens to all jockeys, but Carson's Lingfield blunder, when he was clear but looked behind to his right instead of left and failed to spot any danger, was far more serious.

As this particular offence was Carson's first of the season he was given the minimum penalty (taking effect from May 27) but many who backed him on this odds-on favourite thought he should have been hung, drawn and quartered. Nothing is more infuriating for backers than to be deprived of drawing a jockey's over-confidence or negligence and Carson hot-footed it to the car park after racing with cries of derision ringing in his ears.

"I'm very, very sorry for what happened and hold up my hands. I'll never do it again," said Carson yesterday. "I was trying to give my horse an easy race and didn't hear the other one coming. I thought I was near enough the rail to stop any-

thing coming through. It's one of the worst things to happen in my career and I doubt whether even O.J. Simpson's lawyers could help me on this one. I deserved all I got. If he did not hear Major Dundee coming he certainly heard the demands that it was time for him to hang up his boots, but he would make no comment about retiring.

"I've had plenty of support and my telephone hasn't stopped ringing with trainers wanting to support me," added Carson. In all probability, however, he will heed the message at the end of this season, which has so far been a big let-down, principally through the failure of Alhaarth to confirm his two-year-old promise.

Carson was criticised for not letting Alhaarth stride on in a slow-run Craven Stakes when the colt was beaten by Beuchamp King, although the colt's subsequent defeat in the 2,000 Guineas confirmed that he is certainly no world-beater.

The little Scot got even more stick after being short-headed on Hint Salsabil in the Nell Gwynn Stakes, although once again the filly's run in the 1,000 Guineas suggested she is not overly-talented.

But how much more can Carson take? Once an inside-jockey destroyer called doubt infiltrates the mind confidence is in ruins. And when confidence is lacking the mistakes tend to multiply.

The situation is nowhere near so bad that a Derby victory on Alhaarth would put right, but Carson seems to have little faith in that particularly miracle happening.

Of course, racing, over which there is always a marked variance of opinion,



Cool start... Newbury punters are well wrapped up against yesterday's weather as Amrak Ajeeb wins the opener

courts controversy and we had it at Newbury yesterday when Xenophon Of Cuxana was disqualified after winning the Starlight Express Stakes. Zygoo was beaten a head, but the stewards found that he had been bumped by the winner well inside the final furlong and that this had affected the result. As it was deemed accidental no action was taken against David Harrison, the rider of Xenophon Of Cuxana.

With a strong headwind blowing and jockeys having trouble keeping their mounts straight, the decision seemed harsh and Martin Fetherson-Godley, who thought he had trained his first winner of the season, intends to appeal.

There were 17 non-runners during the afternoon due to the changed going after persistent rain and the afternoon was a big disappointment for the Newbury executive, with a crowd of only 4,300 - 50 per cent down on last year's corresponding fixture, but the weather must be blamed.

At Longchamp yesterday, Luna Wells, trained by Andre Fabre, won the Prix Saint-Alary to get an 8-1 quote with Ladbrokes for the Epsom Oaks. Pricket is 11-8 favourite with Lady Carla 6-1.

Mark Johnston's Double Eclipse made all to take the group two Prix Vicomtesse Vigier and is firmly on course for a clash with his brother Double Trigger in the Ascot Gold Cup.

Musselburgh evening card

Table of racing results for Musselburgh evening card, including sections 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, and 8.30.

Windor tonight

Table of racing results for Windor tonight, including sections 6.15, 6.45, 7.15, 7.45, 8.15, 8.45, 9.15, 9.45, and 10.15.

Southwell National Hunt card

Table of racing results for Southwell National Hunt card, including sections 2.00, 2.30, 3.00, 3.30, 4.00, 4.30, 5.00, 5.30, 6.00, 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 9.30, 10.00, and 10.30.

Bath with form

Large table of racing results for Bath with form, including sections 2.15, 2.45, 3.15, 3.45, 4.15, 4.45, 5.15, 5.45, 6.15, 6.45, 7.15, 7.45, 8.15, 8.45, 9.15, 9.45, and 10.15.

Advertisement for THE VODAFONE DERBY SATURDAY 24 JUNE 2.25pm. Includes text about Queen's Stand, Club Enclosure, and contact information 01372 470047.

Advertisement for RACELINE featuring a grid of numbers and text: RACELINE 0930 168+1. Includes a small table with numbers.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring the text 'Darin blenc', 'Kent pu dampe on Iran show', and 'Crick'.

Cricket

Daring England wield axe to blend new blood with old faces

Mike Selvey finds much cheer in the 13 chosen for the Texaco series against India

WHAT would at first sight appear to be a typical piece of compromise, the England selectors have retained for the Texaco series against India precisely half of the 16 players employed in the disastrous World Cup campaign.

Iran of Essex — are given a chance to establish themselves, and there are returns for the Glamorgan captain Matthew Maynard, who played all his five one-day internationals on the last Caribbean tour, and for the great enigma Chris Lewis after a vibrant start to the season with his latest club, Surrey.

Smith and Darren Gough represent the camels of old, the rest are as crash-hot a bunch of gazelles as could reasonably be assembled.

closed. Maynard is a naturally attacking batsman who was unable to translate his country game into Test cricket; the Welshman had seemed confused as to his role or how to approach a Test innings, and an international career appeared to have passed him by.

The Squad

- M A Atherton (Lancashire, capt)
A D Brown (Surrey)
G A Hick (Worcestershire)
G P Thorpe (Surrey)
M P Maynard (Glamorgan)
A J Stewart (Surrey, wkt)
C C Lewis (Essex)
D G Cork (Derbyshire)
M M K Smith (Warwickshire)
P J Warrin (Lancashire)
G Gough (Yorkshire)
M A Ealham (Kent)



Fresh faces... first England calls yesterday for Ealham (left), Brown (centre) and Irani

cricket is Ealham's forte and he has steadily gained respect over the past couple of seasons as a hard-hitting, intelligent lower-middle-order batsman and, niggly, well-controlled seam bowler.

Whether he plays, however, will depend on the role envisaged for Hick. This is the England batsman most capable of taking the aerial route with the field up, and like Tendulkar for India and Mark Waugh for Australia he could be best employed at the start of the innings.

But Stewart might be on a last chance here: Russell Warren of Northamptonshire, with a double century under his belt already this season, is pushing hard.

Kent put damper on Irani show

RONNIE IRANI celebrated his inclusion in England's squad for the one-day internationals against India by scoring 80 against Kent at Ilford in the Sunday league.

Kent had amassed 372 for six thanks largely to Matthew Fleming's 112 and Carl Hooper's 73. Essex ran the visitors close but finished on 287 for nine.

Mike Watkinson hit a furious century against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge to set Lancashire on course for a seven-wicket win.

Nottinghamshire had paid the price for a slow start before Paul Johnson (47) and Chris Cairns (53) upped the tempo.

Nick Knight continued his fine early-season form when he made the highest individual score by a Warwickshire player in the Sunday league.

The left-hander's 134 off 104 balls at Edgbaston in the victory over Hampshire on higher scoring rates surpassed Asif Din's unbeaten 132 against the same opposition at Southampton in 1993.

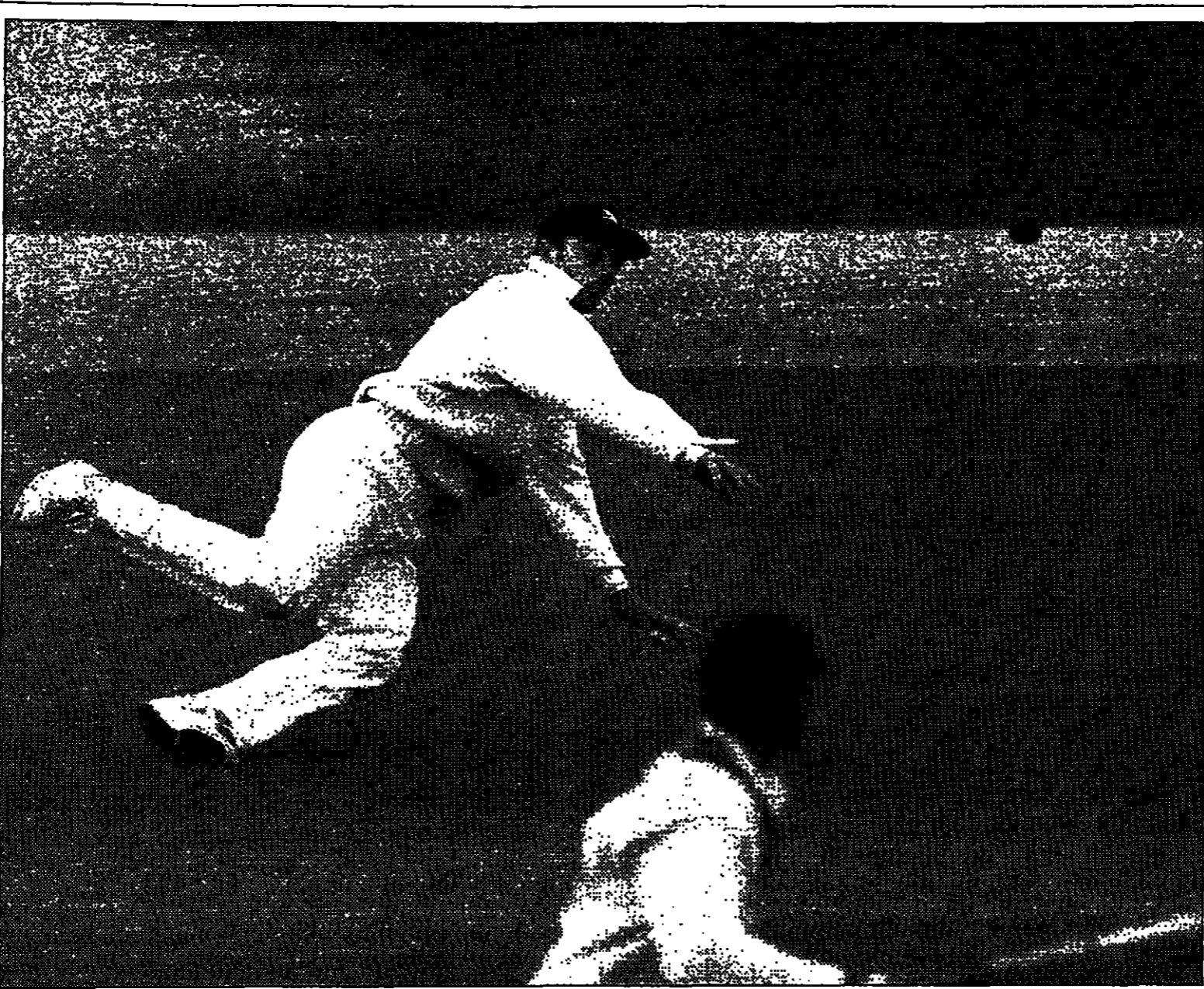
With Dominic Ostler hitting 53, Warwickshire reached 263 for four in 35 overs.

Then Hampshire, facing a revised target of 226 from 30 overs in a rain-affected match, were affected on for 145 with Shaun Pollock taking three for 34 and Dougie Brown four for 47.

They were Brown's Sunday-best figures, as were Chris Selvey's four for 28 for Yorkshire in their victory win against Durham at Chester-le-Street.

The home side's misery was compounded by the £220 fine they incurred for failing to bowl their overs in the stipulated 2hr 40min.

The matches at Bristol, Cardiff and Leicester fell victim to the weather.



Ball bearing... Jason Pooley makes an unsuccessful attempt to run out Sourav Ganguly during Middlesex's defeat yesterday

Tour match: Middlesex v Indians

Getting inked out by Indian

Mike Selvey at Lord's

WITH the Texaco one-day internationals imminent, the Indians came here yesterday not so much for a warm-up as a blow-out. It proved another vile day in a vile spring but they will have left in a reasonable frame of mind after beating Middlesex with a faster scoring rate and plenty in hand.

Middlesex for a time looked capable of overhauling the Indians' 50-over score of 232 for eight. Paul Weekes and Mark Ramprakash, careful at the start but more expansive later, compiled an opening stand of 98.

But it began to go wrong for Middlesex when Getting tried to give himself room to force Anil Kumble through the off side. Now, Getting will have seen enough of Kumble to know that his brisk top-spinners and the occasional googly allow precious little room for such play even if the situation does demand adventure.

The Indians recovered via their captain Azharuddin, who with his customary wristiness caressed 73 from 103 balls. Manjrekar, dubbed a plodder recently, responded with 38 from 93 balls including a six and two fours with support from Sidhu (45),

which he pulled into the Mound Stand off, respectively, Jadeja and Ganguly. Middlesex needed 25 from the last over, and there was just time for Getting to take the wickets of Shah and Hewitt with successive deliveries and to strike Fraser ominously — but unsuccessfully — on the pad first ball. Middlesex's 192 for seven was 22 short of their reduced target.

The Indians chose to field virtually their strongest side, with only this and another one-day match tomorrow against Northamptonshire before Thursday's opening international at The Oval. Their only contested Texaco place is probably between Ganguly, who played yesterday, and Joshi who did not.

So the tourists will not have been pleased with the start they managed here under ICC rules, with fielding restrictions in the opening 15 overs. They were the seam bowling of Fraser and Hewitt hard work, and 15 overs brought just 30 runs for the loss of Rathore and, significantly, Tendulkar, news of whose demise to a slips catch off Fraser caused some potential spectators to do an about-turn at the turnstile.

Getting's departure gave the tourists the opening they needed, and although the loss of four overs and a reduced target should have made it easier for Middlesex, the higher run-rate proved beyond them. Weekes however played admirably for his 81, which con-

Scoreboard

Table with columns for Tour match, Middlesex v Indians, Indians, Kent v Essex, and Warwickshire v Hampshire. Includes scores, wickets, and extras.

DURHAM v YORKSHIRE

Table showing match details for Durham v Yorkshire, including scores, wickets, and extras.

ESSEX

Table showing match details for Essex, including scores, wickets, and extras.

NO PLAY, RAIN

Table listing matches that were abandoned due to rain, including Middlesex v Lancashire, Gloucestershire v Somerset, and Gloucestershire v Worcestershire.

Saturday's board

Table listing various cricket matches and their results, including Warwickshire v Lancashire, Gloucestershire v Somerset, and Gloucestershire v Worcestershire.

Cricket

News and Scores

Table with columns for Counties update and Complete county scores. Lists various counties and their scores.

Sport

Rugby Union

Peace International: Ireland 38, Barbarians 70

Goodwill scores heavily

Robert Armstrong at Lansdowne Road

IRELAND suffered their heaviest defeat in terms of points conceded, yet the embarrassing scoreline was perhaps the least significant feature of the match.

The image of the young Belfast boy who two years ago lost his parents in the Shankill bombing being solemnly introduced to the teams before the kick-off will linger in the memory long after the 16 tries that graced this unique contest have been forgotten.

England given ultimatum over television deal

ENGLAND have been given an ultimatum by the other three home unions: sign a new Five Nations television deal giving equal shares to all, or face being left out of the tournament.

England given ultimatum over television deal

England feel they can earn more by negotiating alone and are determined to arrange a separate contract with the BBC, under which England receive 37 per cent each, runs out next year and Sky and a terrestrial channel have bid more than £200 million for, among other things, the rights to the home-union internationals into the next century.



Bachop... creative director

Golf

Trinidadian Ames keeps cool to tame icy Thame

David Davies sees an unlikely hero eclipse the stars at The Oxfordshire

A COLLECTIVE collapse of the great and the good in golf allowed Stephen Ames, 60th on the Volvo Order of Merit, to win the Benson and Hedges International at The Oxfordshire yesterday.

Colin Montgomerie took 84, Ian Woosnam took 82, Nick Faldo took 80. Ames, the best player to emerge from Trinidad and Tobago, took 72, the best of the day, holing a 12ft putt on the 18th to beat Essex's Jon Robson by a shot. Ames finished five under par on 283. Derrick Cooper was third on 286 and the only other players under par after a week of abysmal weather were Ross Drummond and Andrew Coltart, both on 279.

Ames won £15,800, which was a great deal more than he had won previously in a full season and took him to second in the Order of Merit. This is his second tournament win, but as the other was the Lyons Open, with less than a full field, this is by far his greatest achievement. Robson took away £7,770, also more than he won in any previous season.

There was some simmering resentment, not to mention anger, as the overnight leader trailed off the course badly beaten. Woosnam hurried away with nary a glance at a gathered press corps and Montgomerie, who had been

penalised two shots for angrily kicking the sand in a bunker, was barely capable of speech. Consoled by someone that Nick Faldo had admitted losing heart, he snapped: "Who is Nick Faldo? I'm not interested in what he thinks."

Faldo conceded that he had indeed lost heart at the 8th, where he hit a par putt four inches left of the hole and saw it blown seven feet to the right.

"It was hit and hope out there," he said. "We were not in control and it was bloody tough. It was not golfing weather. It may have been playable but it was very severe. I hit two drives around 360 yards, but against that on the 18th I hit a great three-iron and it went 170 yards."

In such conditions Ames's birthplace did not make him an obvious contender for victory, but he has a slow swing and very good balance and he maintained his rhythm.

He was two under par for 18 holes, easily the best of the day, when he pushed a one-iron into the lake at the 17th. Satisfied it was the right club and the correct tactic, he cleared the water at the next attempt and although he took a double-bogey seven he came to the 18th needing a par to beat Robson.

His second, from 208 yards, was a two-iron which finished 20ft from the hole. His first putt left him with a 12-footer for the win, and the uppercut that followed the ball into the hole was understandable.

"I don't really bogeyed the 2nd," he said later, "and that woke me up. I realised they were not going to stop so I'd better get on with playing."



Punchline... Stephen Ames, who was 60th in the Order of Merit, celebrates his unexpected victory after a final round of 72 at The Oxfordshire yesterday PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

The South African Jeff Hawkes was delighted when he played his first four holes in one-under. At the short 5th he had the wind at his back and a relatively simple tee shot with a seven-iron, but he splashed it into the lake. After walking to a drop zone 120 yards from the pin, he did it again with his next four efforts. All hit with a sand wedge. An eventual 11 led to an outward half of 48, which

was the worst of anyone, but only by two shots from Ronan Rafferty.

Hawkes remained cheerful, chasing a marshal's hat that was blowing in the wind when it would have been easier to ignore it, and got round in 85, three better than Rafferty.

The worst of the day was Jean Van de Velde, who comes from the south of France and usually winters in

Martinique. "This was the most embarrassing day of my life," he said after paring the last to break 90. "But it should have been called off. The conditions here were stupid. Do they think that people come here to watch professionals taking over 80? I do not think so."

"On the 7th hole I hit the ball to two feet, I line it up and then the wind blows and my ball rolls 12 feet away. I call the referee, I ask him is the course playable and he says yes. But I do not think so. And why cannot I replace my ball? That is a terrible rule. I don't see a damn if amateurs lose the weekly medal because of it, but if professionals lose £50,000 or £60,000 it needs to be changed."

Van de Velde, hoping to birdie the 7th, ended up bogeying it. "Maybe I lose a lit-

tle interest after that."

Sandy Lyle hit his opening tee shot 410 yards, downhill and downwind, admittedly, but within 40 yards of the pin. He got his birdie and, amid all the hubbub and carnage, was only one over on the 17th tee.

Here he drove into a bunker, however, his second shot was badly pushed and his third finished in the lake. On the 18th he rushed a 3ft putt because the ball was trem-

bling, missed it and a 7.5 finish meant 76.

"Those conditions were worse than Muirfield in 1987," he said afterwards, alluding to his famous round of 71 in a loathsome East Lothian gale during the Open Championship of that year. Still, on a day when the eclectic worst score was 85 out, 87 in, for 122, 50 over-par, anything under 80 was a score to be proud of.

Tennis

Muster completes Italian job

Stephen Mayer sees the relentless Austrian retain his title in Rome and sound a warning to the opposition in Paris

NOBODY could ever accuse Thomas Muster of careless nonchalance. Hard work, concentration and continual application have made him the world's most formidable clay-court player, and yesterday afternoon in the Foro Italico he duly defeated Richard Krajicek 6-2, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 to win the Italian Open for the third time, and for the second successive year.

There was always the chance, given the contrast in styles between the two players, that this would be a memorable match, but Krajicek's service was below the standard he had set himself on the way to the final and so, crucially, was his volleying. He attributed his errors at the net to his lack of sharpness. Muster's top-spin and the swirling Roman wind.

The first two sets slipped away from the Dutchman rather easily in precisely an hour. But the tension increased sharply in the third.

If all tennis matches represented the survival of the fittest, then Muster, ranked No. 2 in the world, might as well have been Pete Sampras, would probably never lose. As it is, since February last year he has won 95 matches on clay and lost two mere three.

"He runs for everything, and that is why he is so

mainly true, for on court he is almost barbarically single-minded.

This does not necessarily make him much liked. He generates a considerable loathing among some critics bored with his attritional play. But even his fiercest detractors cannot help but admire the man.

Those looking for early omens yesterday might have veered towards Krajicek when Muster fell over in the first game, but it was about the only time the Austrian was caught off-balance.

Krajicek's serve was broken twice in the first set, and on the second occasion he gently bounced his racket off the clay and back into his hand four times in a controlled gesture of frustration.

He continued to struggle in the second set, although there were indications that he could not take the pressure of the Muster serve. These were fulfilled in the third, when Krajicek began to put away his volleys with venom. Here at last was true tension between opposites.

When faced with adversity Muster's reaction is simple: he runs faster, he chases harder and he applies incessant pressure with the accuracy of his shot, off both wings.

Krajicek had barely the time to digest his third-set triumph before Muster was at his throat and once against tearing great chunks out of the Dutchman's confidence. "He always plays the big points so well," said Krajicek. "And so often."

Tears as Graf wins her ninth German Open

STEFFI GRAF wiped tears of happiness from her eyes as a Berlin crowd rose to acclaim her 4-6, 6-2, 7-5 victory over Karina Habšudová in the final of the Women's German Open, a clay-court title she has now claimed nine times.

The ovation from her compatriots proved that Graf's popularity has not diminished since her father was detained last August and later charged with evading taxes on millions of dollars of her earnings.

"To play here was a difficult decision at first," Graf admitted, "but from the first day I knew it was the right decision. I am incredibly happy I made it."

The world joint No. 1 was given a tough final by the unseeded Habšudová, who showed no signs of nerves and took the opening set with a series of pinpoint shots down the lines.

On her way to the final the 22-year-old Slovak had knocked out the highly ranked Swiss teenager Martina Hingis, the French No. 1 Mary Pierce, the No. 4 seed Anke Huber and Russia's Elena Likhovtseva. But she was unable to extend her string of upsets as Graf hit her stride.

Inspired by a partisan crowd, the top seed forcefully took the second set, decisively broke service at 5-5 in the third, and served out for a morale-boosting victory in the run-up to the French Open beginning next Monday.

Hockey

Ipswich 0, Clifton 0 (3-0 on pens) Thompson first among equals

Pat Rowley at Milton Keynes

JO THOMPSON'S goal-keeping brilliance in penalty competitions once again proved decisive when she helped Ipswich win the AEWHA Cup for the first time after the first goalless final. Ipswich triumphed on penalties to complete a week-end double after lifting the veterans' title on Saturday.

Clifton were odds-on when the match went to strokes, having won three penalty competitions on their way to the final. But they never recovered when Thompson, Britain's Olympic goalkeeper, kept the opener in the shootout, taken by Ros Gollup.

The Welsh international Michelle Robertson then put Clifton's second against an upright and, faced by the imposing black-clad Thompson, Lucy Culliford placed the third.

Meanwhile Jane Smith and Tracy Fry put away Ipswich's first two strokes and the Suffolk club, not renowned for their penalty-taking, made sure of a place in Europe next year when Sandy Lister, the former England captain, powered in their third.

It was the third final in five years to be decided by penalties and the time has surely come to reintroduce extra-time. Not that that would necessarily have made any difference yesterday, for these two clubs could have played all night without scoring. Their three matches this winter have produced only two goals.

Ipswich did go close at their first penalty corner in the seventh minute as Claire Burr, in the Clifton goal, could not control Tracy Fry's shot and the defender Sue Brimble only just got to the ball before it trickled over the line.

Ipswich had three corners in the match and got in two shots at their second. Clifton had only one corner and that was not controlled.

Much of the play was scrappy, with neither goalkeeper put under real pressure. Clifton, without their injured Olympic player Tammy Miller, had to rely heavily on the speed of the improving Culliford in attack and negative play in defence.

Ipswich showed more imagination and should have profited from their ability to make breaks on the right. It was from one of these in the last minute that they nearly snatched victory as Jane Smith deflected Lucy Young's cross just wide.

Reported by Thompson, Catchpole, Copeland, Strang, Astcock, Young, Lister, Fry, Rawlinson, Smith, King, Burr, Brimble, O'Bryan, Clifton, Robertson, Swain, Wright, Mitchell, Murray, Culliford, Gollup, Subathrajan, Scullion, Whiteley, Brown. Umpires: G. Hughes and D. Hennig.

Athletics

Under-par Edwards wins despite melt-down

Duncan Mackay in Atlanta sees Britain's gold-medal prospect wilt in the heat

WHEN Jonathan Edwards lands back in Britain this morning after 2½ months' training in the United States, he will be able to tell his Olympic teammates that everything they have heard about the heat and humidity here is true.

The greatest of Britain's world record holder and world champion in the triple jump faced at Saturday's IAAF Grand Prix meeting to celebrate the opening of the centennial Olympic stadium came not from the American Mike Conley or any other rival, but from the heat.

Edwards fell on to his back with a second-round effort of 17.59 metres to crouch the beaten record to 17 metres

400 metres. "It will be hotter in July," warned James Ellis, the stadium's medical officer.

Edwards looked nervous about his first competition since redefining the boundaries of the event last season, when he leapt the world record of 18.29m, but he will surely draw encouragement from the fact that his spell over his rivals remains apparently unbroken.

"I didn't feel I jumped very well," he said. "My technique was bad. I jumped poorly. I'm capable of jumping much further. Today poses as many questions as it answers."

Only 60 days before the curtain rises on the Olympic Games, the Atlanta organisers must feel the same after a series of glitches afflicted this meeting.

Athletes complained about the warm-up track being half a mile from the main stadium

through Atlanta's gridlocked traffic. Edwards was forced to stand in a bus without air conditioning for 45 minutes on his way to the stadium.

Much needs to be done, but this southern belle will surely be ready to welcome her guests for the opening ceremony on July 19.

One thing nobody was complaining about was the track, which produced times as blistering as the heat. Dennis Mitchell won the 100m in 9.93sec, pushed all the way by Carl Lewis, whose 9.94 was his best since setting a world record of 9.86 four years ago.

On his previous visit to Atlanta three months ago Lewis, now approaching 35, finished last in a 60m heat of the US Indoor Championships and was widely written off. But this was vintage Lewis as he found another gear during the second half of the race to

Gunnell and Sanderson do what a golden girl's gotta do

THERE were heart-warming performances from Sally Gunnell and Tessa Sanderson, not so much golden girls as women of a certain age, despite the bitter cold at Bedford's International Games.

For the 40-year-old Sanderson, a remarkable return to competition after taking off four years (and almost a stone in weight) has put her on course for a record sixth Olympics this summer in Atlanta.

After beating the Olympic qualifying standard of 60 metres three times on Saturday — smashing the world-best mark for her age group by nine metres to boot — the 1984 Los Angeles gold medalist said: "This was a tester, to get the fright out of the way."

Sanderson believes she has a genuine medal chance. "The technique is starting to come back. You never lose the art of throwing a javelin when you've been at the highest level. Once I reach the final I should perform."

Gunnell, whose Achilles problems devastated last season, won her first opening air race of the year by covering the flat 400 metres in 52.96sec and declared herself fully over her operation.

"I was tightening up quite a lot towards the end but in the conditions the time wasn't bad," she said.

Gunnell, who will turn 30 during the Olympics, will have a flatter idea about her prospects of retaining her title in Atlanta after she competes in her first 400m hurdles race for 20 months in Jena, Germany next Saturday.



Edwards... winning leap

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

Soccer

International match: England 3, Hungary 0

Venables left with defences down

Commentary
David Lacey

AS TERRY Venables and his players set off for Beijing today on what appears to be the most ill-advised English expedition to China since the second Opium War, news that the England coach is considering a return to club management after the European Championship will surprise only those who believe the moon is made of cheese.

Or the lunar chamber of statements by the Football Association, one of which insisted that the reason Venables was standing down after Euro 96 was to concentrate on fighting his court battles and clearing his name. True though this might be, he also has to clear his legal debts, and television punditry alone will not do that.

Whether he goes to Porto or Portsmouth, Venables could hardly be blamed for seeking further employment in football. His position is similar to that of Bobby Robson before the 1990 World Cup.

Robson, having been told by Sir Bert Millichip, the FA chairman, that his job was not guaranteed after Italia '90, promptly secured a position for himself with PSV Eindhoven.

ven. Venables, who believed he was being denied the FA's full backing after Euro 96, would merely be doing the same having given England six months' notice.

In fact what Venables does next is a side issue. Of more immediate concern will be the effects on England's European Championship prospects of spending a week in the Far East which includes a match against China on a sub-standard pitch.

The justification for this tour has yet to be satisfactorily explained, although one suspects that if necessary the FA could have come up with a plausible argument for playing a warm-up match in South Lebanon.

As if the situation was not awkward enough, Venables finds himself three weeks away from the European Championship with his defensive plans in disarray after this match at Wembley. Injuries to Tony Adams and Gary Pallister have helped persuade him to switch to a three-man defence, he has named Mark Wright, without whom the system will not work.

Depending on Wright was always a risk. The knee ligament injury he suffered early in Saturday's match against Hungary was as predictable as Elsha Cook Jr getting shot in the second reel.

A broken shin put Wright out of the 1996 World Cup and shortly before the 1992 European Championship he withdrew from the squad with the recurrence of an Achilles tendon problem. He is an accident waiting to happen.

The absence of Wright on the Far East tour has increased the chances of Ugo Ehiogu, Gareth Southgate and Sol Campbell finding roles in the European Championship. And Venables will be even more anxious during the coming week to see if Adams is going to make it in time. Yet Adams, like Pallister, is a sound, solid defender at club level who belongs to the myrtle school of centre-back and is a dandy in major tournaments.

Fresh uncertainties at the back make it even more imperative that nothing ill befalls Paul Ince in China and Hong Kong. On his protective presence in midfield so much now depends. In fact England did not really get going on Saturday until Ince began to drive forward to link up with Teddy Sheringham.

England's last home match before Euro 96 told Venables nothing new apart from Jason Wilcox's ability to centre with his left foot at international level. But at Darren Anderton, playing his first international for nearly a year, still looked the part.

After England had spent half an hour looking as likely to win the European Championship as they would the Eurovision Song Contest with a rendition of Nellie Dean, Anderton stole in behind the Hungarian defence to score from Sheringham's low cross. Platt scrambled a second goal, his 27th for England, early in the second half, Ince's quick free-kick having rummaged the defenders, and Anderton scored the third after Robert Lee had cleverly



Back with a bang... Anderton, who marked his international return with two goals at Wembley, gets the ball across despite the attentions of Horvath

PHOTOGRAPH BY RICHARD BAKER



Down and out... concern for the injured Wright

made space on the right before crossing the ball. Les Ferdinand's challenge on Petry saw it nicely set up for the Tottenham player.

The cross from Lee had seen Wilcox head against the bar in the second minute, the minute that also saw Wright's knee damaged as he lunged for the ball at full stretch. And shortly after Anderton's second goal a shot from Sheringham came back off the bar.

But a five-goal victory, though it would not have flattered England, would still have meant as little as the 5-0 win over a poor Greece team achieved in Venables's second game. Hungary embarrassed the memories of famous predecessors.

A profusion of substitutes, five for each team with Walker and Campbell getting their first caps and Alan Shearer putting in a reap-

pearance, reduced the occasion to bathos. Dennis Wise made his mark to the extent of planting his studs in Urban's groin. One place in the final 22 could lie between Wise and Wilcox, another between Ferdinand and Fowler. Jamie Redknapp and Nick Barmby are most likely to miss the cut but the situation may yet change again. Paul Gascoigne might fall off the Great Wall.

SCORES: England: Anderton (38 and 62m), Platt (52).
Hungary: Petry (38), Horvath (51), Vancso (67m), Szilagyi (70).
Greece: Karamanlis (38), Karamanlis (51), Karamanlis (67m), Karamanlis (70).
Tottenham: Lee (38), Lee (51), Lee (67m), Lee (70).
Liverpool: Southgate (38), Southgate (51), Southgate (67m), Southgate (70).
Manchester United: Wilcox (38), Wilcox (51), Wilcox (67m), Wilcox (70).
Aston Villa: Pearce (38), Pearce (51), Pearce (67m), Pearce (70).
Sheff Wed: Sheff Wed (38), Sheff Wed (51), Sheff Wed (67m), Sheff Wed (70).
Sheff Utd: Sheff Utd (38), Sheff Utd (51), Sheff Utd (67m), Sheff Utd (70).
Sheff Wed: Sheff Wed (38), Sheff Wed (51), Sheff Wed (67m), Sheff Wed (70).
Sheff Utd: Sheff Utd (38), Sheff Utd (51), Sheff Utd (67m), Sheff Utd (70).
Sheff Wed: Sheff Wed (38), Sheff Wed (51), Sheff Wed (67m), Sheff Wed (70).
Sheff Utd: Sheff Utd (38), Sheff Utd (51), Sheff Utd (67m), Sheff Utd (70).

The end of the international may be nigh and no wonder

Martin Thorpe on why even low-key friendlies such as Saturday's may soon fall to the power of money and the European super-clubs

AS QUESTIONS continued to be asked about why on earth England are to cross the globe for a Euro 96 warm-up game in China, those huddled against the cold at Wembley on Saturday afternoon might have put forward the argument that it does not take thousands of miles of travel to create a meaningless friendly.

The large old stadium failed to disguise yet another meagre crowd, pad-

ded out by schoolchildren whose high-pitched voices were added to the low-key atmosphere.

Blaming England's constant diet of friendlies is only part of the story. All over Europe, attendances for international matches are falling as people perhaps pick up on, or help create, a growing feeling that the international match could soon become an endangered species.

This may sound untimely

doom-mongering, given that England is about to host its most important international soccer event in 30 years, which will see sell-out crowds in the grip of that mixture of national pride and jingoism that remains the biggest, though sometimes the worst, attraction of competitive games between two countries.

But though the heart of at least one country may still be stirred into thinking that all is right with the

world should England beat Scotland 3-0 at Wembley this summer, the head says that international matches may soon be consigned to soccer's museum alongside the minimum wage and leather studs.

The catalyst for change will, as ever, be money. The game, especially in Europe, is fast becoming too club-oriented for the mega-companies that they have become to find the time or inclination for international football matches.

A European League is just around the corner. The favourite haunt of European matches, the close season, is in danger of being

squeezed out in favour of a midwinter break. Where then will be found the space for the international games?

And also, where the reason? With millions of pounds, marks, francs and lire being poured into continental clubs, with millions more to be won in prize-money and commercial rights, with even more millions to be made in share prices dependent on one good or bad result, why should a club release a top player for an international game when there is a fair chance that their only return would be that player's injury?

One could protest that Uefa will not allow such a scenario. But Uefa might have no choice. Disaffection with the European governing body is so rife among leading clubs all over Europe that a break-away union has already been mooted.

If such a body did exist, it would serve the clubs' insular aims ahead of Uefa's more socialist goal of spreading income from the wealthy to the weak. And in that respect you can bet that the current provision to compel clubs to release players for international games would not be top of the new

priorities and agenda. Uefa's president Lennart Johansson may be many things but he is not blind, and last week even he acknowledged the writing on the wall when referring to the efforts of the Bosman judgment.

"When the clubs don't have to think of any restrictions in the number of foreign players they can use during a game, they can demand that the players don't take off to play for their own country," he said.

As a case in point, Milan at present play three foreigners, whose release for international games presents no problem. But if in

future they may have 11 foreigners in their side — in fact next season they could have as many as six — why should they increase the risk of injuries two- or threefold by releasing so many foreigners for various international commitments?

However, if Uefa International Rescue fails to save the genre there would at least be one area where consolation could be found. Namely, that without games between nations we would also thankfully be spared international managerial speculation, Le Tissier-type intrigue and Turnip headlines.

Rush to earn £1m in Leeds deal

IAN RUSH will end his 16-year career with Liverpool at lunchtime today when he joins Leeds United.

The Welsh international striker will undergo a medical examination at Elland Road before finalising a two-year deal which, it is believed, will be worth in excess of £1 million to the 34-year-old player.

Rush, who is being released by the Anfield club, accepted a new contract which will keep him at Boundary Park until the summer of 1998.

Reports that a new, £6 million Football League sponsorship — worth twice the current deal with Endeligh — had been concluded were played down by a senior league official yesterday.

Two major High Street names have been strongly linked with the three-year contract that the league are seeking. The Nationwide building society has reportedly already sealed a deal worth more than £6 million, which would be revealed after the play-offs conclude at Wembley next Monday, and

the fast-food chain Burger King is also said to be pushing hard to become the new sponsor.

However, the league's assistant secretary Andy Williamson said: "We're talking to several interested parties and we're not yet in a position to make any announcement. There is no timescale as to when we will be able to conclude negotiations, and there certainly won't be an announcement before the playoffs next weekend; our only deadline is next August."

Endeligh's current £3 million, three-year deal expires after Monday's First Division play-off final and it was understood that the insurance company was unwilling to renew the much higher figure now sought. But Williamson said: "Endeligh are involved in our negotiations and are keen to continue."

The league's bargaining power has been increased by a new deal which will see league games broadcast live on Sky Sports and highlights go out on terrestrial channels.

Celtic yesterday would neither confirm nor deny reports claiming they are set to sign a £20 million sponsorship deal with the sportswear company Reebok. The Glasgow club have current sponsorship deals with Umbro and the double-glazing company CR Smith that run to 2000 and the end of next season respectively.

Tennents Scottish Cup final: Heart of Midlothian 1, Rangers 5

Laudrup and Durie break Hearts

HEARTS supporters who travelled to Hampden Park in such buoyant mood on Saturday afternoon to see their club's first Scottish Cup final since 1972, were left with a bitter taste in their mouths.

Among them was Jim Jeffries, a fan since childhood who also happens to be the present manager of the team. "When Gilles made his mistake to give them their second goal," said Jeffries, referring to a starting blunder by his French goalkeeper Rousset, "I just wanted to get back home. I looked at my watch and it was only 10 past four."

Another 40 minutes and a hat-trick from Rangers' Gordon Durie had to be endured before Jeffries and his fellow sufferers could be released from their ordeal.

Colquhoun's consolation goal for Hearts, a speculative long-range drive when they were three goals down, brought only fleeting relief, as though the torturer had momentarily laid aside the instruments during a change of shifts.

Laudrup, who scored two goals and set up the other three, was Rangers' chief executioner. His first goal, a well-placed shot, broke the deadlock towards the end of a competitive first half. His second arrived five minutes

after the interval, a harmless curving cross that Rousset should have picked up as easily as a daisy. The goalkeeper must already have been looking up to assess his options for releasing the ball when it somehow squirmed through his hands, between his ankles and across the line.

This was a blow that caused Hearts not so much to break as to disintegrate. It was a cruel irony for the Edinburgh club, as Rousset had been one of the most influential figures in their resurgence since his move from Rennes last

autumn. It was also the second serious setback of the match for Jeffries's team, whose young captain Locke had departed after only eight minutes with a knee injury.

Locke's absence from the right wing-back position — he was replaced by a forward, Lawrence — forced a reshuffle which upset Hearts' 3-5-2 line-up, a fluent formation that had outwitted the champions in their last two league meetings.

If Laudrup gave way to Durie as interrogator-in-chief it was only in the matter of administering the damaging

blow. The Dane remained the most powerful force on the field, supplying the Scotland striker with the passes for all three of his goals.

In winning the Man of the Match award by a distance, Laudrup virtually gave Gascoigne the afternoon off. The England midfielder had his quietest match in months, content to play a holding role in Rangers' deep midfield. He nevertheless managed to pick up a bruised shoulder which will need treatment during England's pre-Euro 96 trip to China and Hong Kong. It is expected that he will recover

in good time for the international matches ahead.

Rangers' 27th triumph in the country's oldest tournament — this was the 111th final of a trophy first contested in 1874 — could hardly have been more emphatically achieved. Durie's was the first hat-trick in the match since Dixie Deans's for Celtic against Hibs 24 years ago and only the third in history.

It was Walter Smith's third league and cup double since he succeeded Graeme Souness as manager at Ibrox in 1991. If Celtic's persistent challenge had made the Premier Division championship a test of stamina, the cup proved an unexpected doddle.

Colquhoun headed Colquhoun (79m), Rousset (86, 79 and 85), Laudrup (37 and 49), Hearts: Rousset, Locke (Lawrence, 31, Ritchie, McManus, McPherson, Bruno, Robertson, 53), Johnston, Mackay, Colquhoun, Fulton, Ponnson, Rangers: Goran, Cieland, Robertson, Gow, McLaren, Brown, Durie, Gascoigne, Ferguson (Durrani, 68), McCall (unused).
Referee: H Dallas (Motherwell).

● Ally McCoist, Rangers' 33-year-old striker, aggravated a calf injury during the warm-up and lost his place on the subs' bench but still hopes to be on Scotland's plane to America tomorrow for the friendlies against the United States next Sunday and Colombia on May 29. His absence from the final extended his Scottish Cup jinx during his time at Ibrox; he has collected only one winners' medal with Rangers, in the 1992 final against Airdrie.

Grobbelaar is Zimbabwe's No. 2 coach

BRUCE GROBBELAAR, released last week by Southampton, has become deputy coach to the Zimbabwe national team.

The 38-year-old Grobbelaar, who will answer match-rigging charges in January, was recently dropped from the national team by Zimbabwe's coach Marc Davilla after years as their No. 1 goalkeeper.

Macclesfield, who last won the FA Trophy in 1970, enjoyed a second success with a 3-1 Wembley victory yesterday over their GM Vauxhall Conference rivals Northwich.

Sammy McIlroy's team sealed victory after 81 minutes when the winger Tony Hemmings, playing against his former club, finished off a run from inside his own half with a low shot. Northwich's full-back Derek Ward was sent off two minutes later for his second bookable offence in front of a 3,872 crowd, the lowest for a Trophy final.

Eric Cantona and David Ginola have been left out of the France squad for Euro 96. The national coach Aimé Jacquet has not picked Cantona since the Manchester United player's worldwide ban ended in October.

● Gareth Southgate (Arsenal), Walker (Tottenham), 65; G Neville (Man Utd), Wright (Liverpool), Southgate, Aston Villa, 121, Pearce (Nottingham Forest), Anderton (Tottenham), Lee (Newcastle), Ince (Internationale), Campbell, Tottenham, 62, Platt (Aston Villa), Chisna, 63, Wilcox (Blackburn), Sheff Wed (Tottenham), Ferdinand (Newcastle), Shearer, Blackburn, 70.
● Hungary: Petry, Puskas, Szilagyi, Szilagyi, Horvath (Arsenal), 81, Urban, Hatos, Balog (Hls), 60, Nagy (Blackburn), Horvath (Telex), 81, Vancso (Gyergy), 70.
Referee: H Mark (Germany).



History man... Gordon Durie was the first Scottish Cup hat-trick since 1972

ROB CALGHE

Major shake-up by England selectors, page 13
Ames survives the big blow, page 14

Injury headaches for Venables, page 15

SportsGuardian

FAVOURITES FALL AMONG THE WRECKAGE AT THE MONACO GRAND PRIX

Richard Williams sees a young Frenchman hit the jackpot in Monte Carlo

Hill gives way to Panis in the streets

ONLY three cars were left running at the end of yesterday's Monaco Grand Prix, and none of them was driven by Damon Hill or Michael Schumacher. Run on wet roads and punctuated by frequent incidents, the race produced a first victory for Olivier Panis, who thus ended a 15-year drought for the Ligier team and became the first Frenchman to win this almost-French race in a French car since René Dreyfus in a Bugatti in 1930.

Second was David Coulthard's McLaren-Mercedes, only five seconds behind the Ligier-Mugen when the race was stopped after reaching the two-hour limit, with Johnny Herbert's Sauber-Ford half a minute further back in third. Heinz-Harald Frentzen's Sauber, Mika Salo's Tyrrell, Mika Hakkinen's McLaren and Eddie Irvine's Ferrari filled the remaining four positions, having covered sufficient distance to be classified as finishers, but all of them had stopped before the chequered flag came out.

Panis is a 29-year-old Grand Prix driver whose talent has been evident since he arrived in Formula One two seasons ago.

He started yesterday's race from 14th position on the grid and deserved his win, although inevitably he relied to some extent on the misfortunes of others — notably Hill, who was in complete command when his engine blew just after half-distance.

Hill's path, in turn, had been cleared when he made a better start on the wet track than Schumacher, who had won the previous two editions of the race and was a strong favourite to bring the recent Ferrari renaissance to a climax yesterday.

Clearly annoyed at himself for wasting the advantage of

Benetton's Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger. Behind them a degree of carnage spectacular even by Monaco's standards removed more than a third of the 21-car field within the first five laps.

Three cars — the Minardis of Giancarlo Fisichella and Pedro Lamy, who ran into each other, and the Footwork of Jos Verstappen — failed even to get round the first corner.

But Panis was already catching the eye. While others were simply trying to avoid the guard rails, he went past Brundie, Hakkinen and Herbert in the space of 15 laps

taken on a distinctly French tint, but Irvine remained insensible to their urgency. Panis, who could sense a good finish in the offing, decided not to wait. Coming down to the Station Hairpin he ran down the inside the Ferrari, nudging it into the barriers.

Irvine limped back to the pits and had his nose section changed. But before the Ferrari could wreak further damage, Hill's majestic progress had come to an end. On the 40th lap the red oil-pressure light winked a warning. Halfway through the tunnel the next time round, a cloud of smoke deprived him of certain victory in the race his father won five times. So ended the Williams team's six-race winning streak and a run of 16 victories for the Renault V10 engine.

As he climbed out, Hill clasped his gloves to his helmet in despair.

"It's a long time since an engine let me down," he said later. "It was all going brilliantly. Our strategy was perfect."

Hill deprived of certain victory in the race his father won five times

pole position in front of tens of thousands of German and Italian fans, the world champion made a bad judgment less than a minute into the race, clouting the barrier at the downhill right-hander after the old Station Hairpin.

Seizing the opportunity as the world champion began to walk back to the pits, Hill pulled quickly away from the

— all the more remarkable since his car was heavy with a full tank of petrol, a risky strategy aimed at saving time by using his pit stops only to change tyres.

Meanwhile Berger retired with a broken gearbox, giving third place to Irvine, who was holding up a queue of nine cars covered by less than eight seconds with a display of obduracy that eventually degenerated into sheer pig-headedness. Frentzen was the first to lose patience, breaking his front wing against Irvine's rear wheels at Ste-Devote.

By the time Hill headed for the pits after 28 laps he had built up a 23-second lead over Alesi, allowing him to resume only just behind the Frenchman. Within two laps the Williams, now fitted with slick tyres to suit the drying track, had repossessed the Benetton and was drawing away again.

Panis was the chief beneficiary of the pit-stop sequence, leaving ahead of Coulthard to take fourth place, only to find that it was his turn to be blocked by Irvine. The blue of the marshals' warning flags suddenly seemed to have

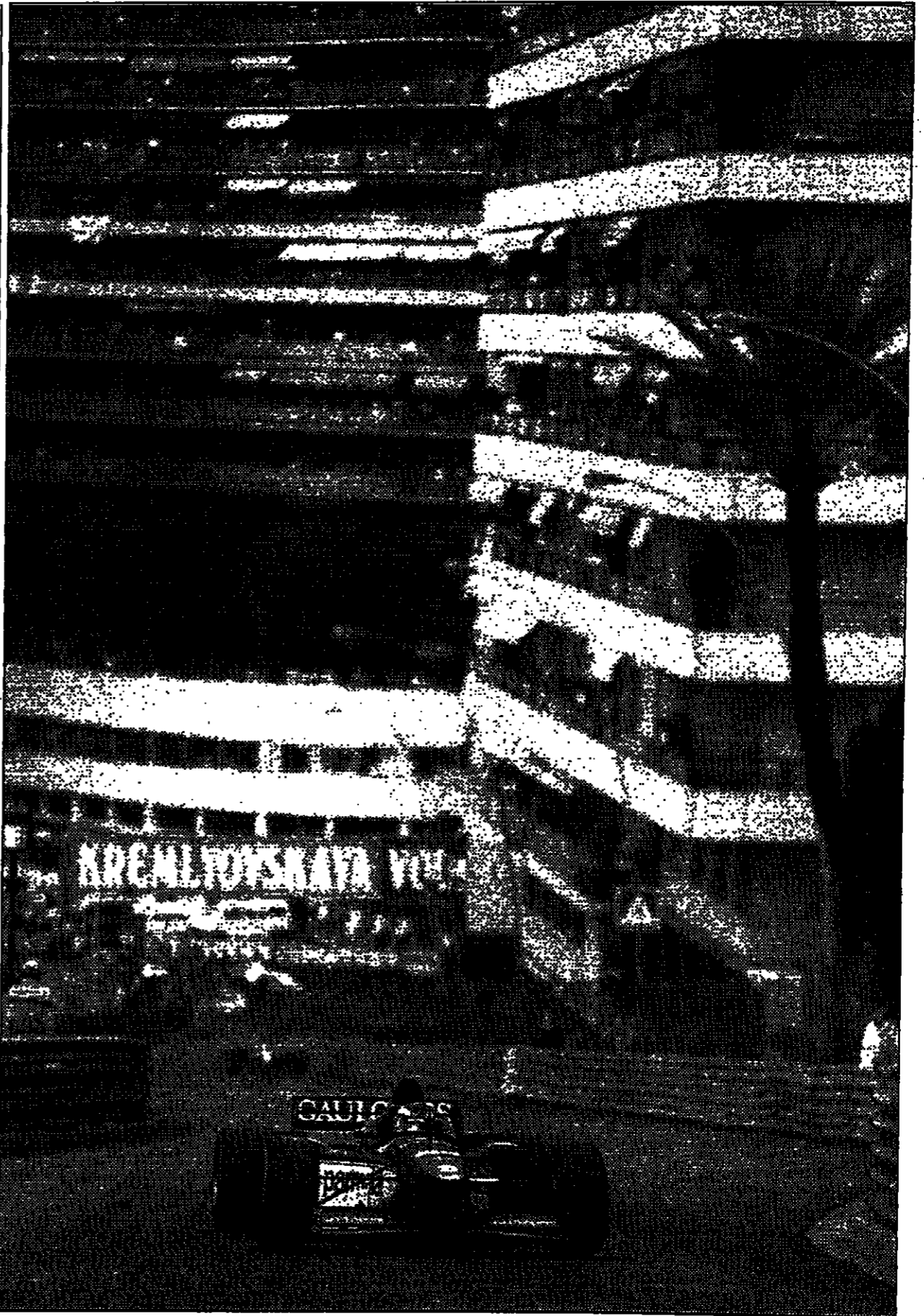
Thereafter Panis, Coulthard and Herbert needed only to steer clear of danger, which meant avoiding Luca Badoer, who was fined \$5,000 for sending Villeneuve into the barriers and out of fourth place with eight laps to go, and Irvine, who spun at Schumacher's black spot and took Salo and Hakkinen with him.

Panis took his lap of honour with a large tricolour flying from the Ligier's cockpit. This is against the rules, but he should be forgiven. Yesterday's race may not have affected the higher narrative of the championship battle, but it made its own sweet little bit of history.

The way they went

- There were 17 hard-luck tales in Monte Carlo yesterday:
- Lap 1: Schumacher (Ferrari) — hit guard rail.
 - Verstappen (Footwork-Hart) — hit guard rail.
 - Lap 2: Barrichello (Jordan-Ford) — hit guard rail.
 - Lamy (Minardi-Ford) and Fisichella (Minardi-Ford) — abandoned after collision.
 - Lap 4: Katayama (Tyrrell-Yamaha) — hit guard rail.
 - Lap 5: Rosset (Footwork-Hart) — hit guard rail after spin.
 - Lap 7: Diniz (Ligier-Honda) — engine stalled after spin.
 - Lap 11: Berger (Benetton-

- Renault) — broken gearbox.
- Lap 32: Brundie (Jordan-Peugeot) — hit guard rail after spin.
- Lap 41: Hill (Williams-Renault) — blown engine.
- Lap 62: Alesi (Benetton-Renault) — broken rear suspension.
- Lap 67: Villeneuve (Williams-Renault) and Badoer (Forti-Ford) — collided.
- Lap 72: Irvine (Ferrari) — spun to a halt.
- Salo (Tyrrell-Yamaha) — hit Irvine.
- Hakkinen (McLaren-Mercedes) — hit Salo.



Flat out... Olivier Panis finds some space in residential Monte Carlo

PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN MARSH

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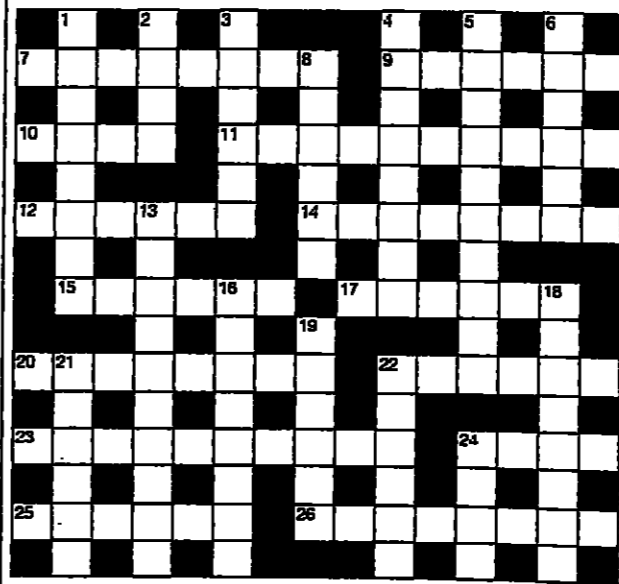
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A jilted lover circulates a damning letter to his former girlfriend's neighbours, publicly humiliating her by giving details of her supposed sexual habits. The plots resemble Greek tragedy, with lives and reputations destroyed in a moment of madness. Classic cases of revenge

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Guardian Crossword No 20,657

Set by Crispa



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This week's winners are Arwyn Thomas English Dictionary and Arwyn Thomas of Portcawl, Mid Glamorgan, J. D. McLerman of Poole, Dorset, John Davies of Sittingbourne, Kent, Glyn Williams of Porthcawl, Bristol and Ms. L. Mockett of Croxford, Surrey.

- Across**
- 7 Show record drop (8)
 - 9 Directors prepared for flotation? (7)
 - 10 Some fortunate Eskimos have running water (4)
 - 11 There is a way to get out of the flaming situation! (4-6)
 - 12 Twice left within range in a boat (6)
 - 14 A wild plant that's quite without equal (8)
 - 15 Worn-out English fellow going on holiday (6)
 - 17 Leave when there's no soft drink available (3,3)
 - 20 Where to plague the MPs in disavowal (6)
 - 22 Wipes off money in bad scare (6)
 - 23 Poles pretended to follow craft back — or did! (10)
- Down**
- 24 The staff, beginning early, went on (4)
 - 25 Back a relentless union (6)
 - 26 Presented with more ties to be exchanged — so irritating! (8)
 - 1 Admire the sapient also (8)
 - 2 The ones in hand (4)
 - 3 About to bid for a strongbox (5)
 - 4 Inherited company accepting change of name, it appears (4,4)
 - 5 This is standard in "As You Like It" (10)
 - 6 A jerk holding the right work would give a certain degree of latitude (5)
 - 8 Engineers upset over phone being out of order (6)
 - 13 Blow the individual not doing anything the right way! (4-6)

- 16 Take meandering route in a picturesque area of France (8)
- 18 A threat to miners motivated a politician (8)
- 19 Be a flier and take off! (4,2)
- 21 Monstrous woman among the most progressive of feminists (6)
- 22 Such trees may well be sacred (6)
- 24 Others are at ease (4)

Solution tomorrow

23 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0800 328 223. Calls cost 35p per min, cheap rate, 48p per min at other times. Service supplied by ATS

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.